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KENT ON SUNDAY

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'DISTURBING' FINDINGS IN HOSPITALS MRSA STUDY

Hand hygiene is vital to stop new outbreak

By MARIJKE COX

A HEALTH watchdog has warned of a potential superbug infection outbreak if hospital staff fail to prioritise hand hygiene.

It follows a study of eight of the county's hospitals where bacteria linked to MRSA and Clostridium difficile was found on some wards.

Health experts have now issued a stark warning to hospitals, reminding them of the C diff outbreak at the Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust where 90 patients died between 2004 and 2006 across its three hospitals.

Officials from Kent and Medway Local Involvement Network (LINk), who carried out the research, said they understood infection rates were falling across the county, but stressed that hand hygiene standards must be kept up.

Graham Hills, operations director of the organisation, which looks to improve health and social care in Kent and Medway, said some of their findings were "disturbing".

"MRSA and C diff rates are dropping so the high-profile messages by hospitals to use hand gels are having some impact, but it's the inconsistency of use by staff and visitors that is concerning," he said.

"On swabs taken around hospitals, we found bacteria which could pose a risk to patients' health at nurses' stations – such as in the computer keyboards – bathrooms and patients' bedsides.

"Some of the bacteria we found was part of the MRSA and C diff bacteria groups. We don't want to see another infection outbreak."

Research was carried out between September, 2009, and March, 2010, at William Harvey Hospital in Ashford; Kent and Canterbury in Canterbury; Darent Valley in Dartford; Medway Maritime in Gillingham; Maidstone Hospital; Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother in Margate; Kent and Sussex in Tunbridge Wells; and Pembury, also in Tunbridge Wells.

A total of 1,353 observations were made of staff, patients and visitors using hand hygiene gel dispensers, and 145 swab samples taken from around the hospitals.

Levels of compliance varied from 80 per cent down to less than 20 per cent, with observations of use at the entrance to wards being lowest at the William Harvey, which is run by the East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust.

The highest usage was seen at Pembury, which was one of the hospitals embroiled in the superbug scandal three years ago.

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

Picture: PA WIREPRESS ASSOCIATION IMAGES

The Dunkirk Spirit lives on

Veteran Lionel Tucker, 93, waves a flag on board a ferry bound for Dunkirk, France, to commemorate the 70th anniversary of Operation Dynamo

FULL STORY – SEE INSIDE

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Capello kicks-off KOS Fab Football Campaign

ENGLAND'S manager Fabio Capello has backed KOS Media's new Fab Football 2010 campaign aimed at increasing participation in the sport.

Ahead of leading the Three Lions into battle at next month's World Cup, the Italian supremo is fighting our corner as we attempt to lure people away from their television sets and onto the field of play.

The campaign we are launching today – which also has the backing of FA vice-chairman Barry Bright and sports minister Hugh Robertson – will highlight the health and social benefits of playing football, as well as provide information on how disabled people, women and other minority groups can get involved.

It will also demonstrate how the FA's ongoing Respect campaign is having a positive influence on the lives of children and their parents and teachers throughout Kent.

Capello said: "In England we each share a wonderful passion for the game, and I'm sure KOS Media's Fab Football campaign will be a positive experience for the whole county.

"It is a great opportunity for players, children and families to get involved in football and inspire a new generation."

With more than 3,000 teams and 45,000 players competing each week across the county, football is already the most popular sport in Kent – but we want even more people to enjoy the many benefits of the beautiful game.

Excitement

Over the next few months we will be talking to health chiefs about how football can help in the fight against problems such as obesity and heart disease, as well as to the police about how it can cut crime and improve communities.

We will also be offering some fantastic competition prizes.

Kent County FA chairman Barry Bright said: "We welcome and are delighted to give wholesome support to KOS Media's Fab Football Campaign. With the excitement of the World Cup less than a fortnight away, there is a great opportunity to further raise the profile of England's most popular sport.

"So while cheering England to success, don't just sit in your armchair watching the games – now is the time to find out about the many ways you can actively get involved in the fun, enjoyment and success of football in Kent."

Sports minister Hugh Robertson – the MP for Faversham and Mid Kent – has also given his full support to the Fab Football campaign.

He said: "If there's one event that can inspire more young people to take up football, it's the World Cup. As well as the obvious health benefits, the sport brings together people from all communities and has a truly global appeal.

"As sports and Olympics minister, my top priority is to extent the opportunities available through sport to the maximum number of people so I would encourage all of the young people in Kent to get involved in the beautiful game."

What areas of the sport would you like our Fab Football campaign to cover? We're appealing for all young footballers, Sunday league players and semi-professional clubs to get in touch and let us know.

Send your suggestions to KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, TN25 6SS or email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk.

Researchers did not view every area

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Mr Hills said: "This piece of work wasn't about knocking these hospitals. We know the hard work they are doing to ensure cleanliness. But despite this, we can see that measures put in place are not always effective.

"There is no safe level of contamination and clearly for certain patients they are at much higher risk. Staff should be dedicated to minimising these risks."

Seven of the 145 swabs taken – four from computer keys, two from hot taps and one from unisex public toilets – found bacteria linked to MRSA.

But NHS trusts, who welcomed the report, have stressed cleanliness is a priority, proven by the sharp fall in infection rates.

Linda Dempster, head of infection prevention and control at Medway NHS Foundation Trust – where rates of MRSA have fallen by 77 per cent in the last four years – said the researchers did not view every area of the hospitals.

A spokeswoman from the Medway trust, which has one of the lowest rates of C diff in the South East, added: "Our hand hygiene policy is based on national guidance and cleaning across the trust adheres to strict national cleaning standards.

"We have also fully adopted the National Patient Safety Agency's 'clean your hands' campaign – the complete focus of this is hand hygiene at point of care, while this report focuses on ward entrances."

Dr Sara Mumford, director of infection prevention and control at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust, said she was pleased the report also highlighted the improvements in cleanliness and infection control practises at its three hospitals.

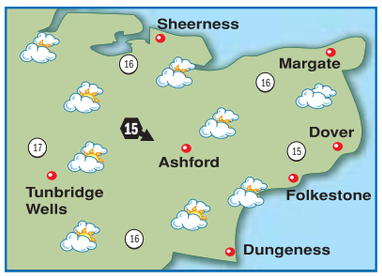
She added: "Our infection rates have fallen sharply in the last two years and we have the lowest levels of C diff in the South East."

• *See page nine for the return of matron to the ward.*

HAND HYGIENE – COMPLIANCE FIGURES (%) OBSERVED AT ENTRANCE TO WARD

HOSPITAL	STAFF	PATIENTS	VISITORS	TOTAL
DARENT VALLEY	16	0	45	61
KENT AND CANTERBURY	25	50	21	96
QUEEN ELIZABETH THE QUEEN MOTHER	39	0	38	77
WILLIAM HARVEY	26	0	0	26
KENT AND SUSSEX	61	-	50	111
MAIDSTONE	46	0	13	59
PEMBURY	55	71	33	159
MEDWAY MARITIME	64	25	55	144

Kent today



TODAY: A bright day with sunny spells but also showers, some of which will be heavy. Strong north-westerly winds. Temperatures slightly below the average. Max temp 14-17C (57-63F). **TONIGHT:** Mainly dry with largely clear skies. Strong north-westerly winds easing. Min temp 7-10C (45-50F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	showers	13	55	London	fair	19	66
Belfast	fair	15	59	Liverpool	sun	16	61
Birmingham	showers	17	63	Manchester	showers	16	61
B'mouth	fair	19	66	Newcastle	rain	13	55
Bristol	fair	16	61	Norwich	rain	14	57
Cardiff	fair	16	61	Oxford	fair	18	64
Cork	cloudy	16	61	Southsea	fair	18	64
Edinburgh	drizzle	15	59	S'hampton	fair	18	64
Glasgow	fair	15	59	Southport	sun	15	59
Isle of Man	sun	14	57	Swansea	fair	16	61
Leeds	showers	14	57	Torquay	fair	17	63

Sun & moon

Sunrise	4.45am	Sunset	9.02pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	11.32pm	Moonset	6.33am	9.02pm to 4.44am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
	ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)	
Dover	01.06	6.4	13.27	6.4	01.46	6.3	14.05	6.3
Margate	02.03	4.7	14.17	4.5	02.44	4.6	14.55	4.5
St Mary's	06.55	5.2	19.15	5.4	07.34	5.0	19.54	5.2

Week ahead

monday Variable cloud. max 19C min9C

thursday Sunny. Dry. max 20C min 9C

tuesday Clouding over. max 19C min 9C

friday Sunny periods. max 21C min 10C

wednesday Rain clearing. max 19C min 9C

saturday Dry and sunny. max 22C min 11C

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'Stop dumping children on us'

Schools rebel against number of vulnerable kids sent to Kent

By STEVE KNIGHT
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

REBEL headteachers are refusing to accept any more looked-after children from outside Kent in protest at the disproportionate numbers being "dumped" in their schools.

Last week Kent on Saturday revealed how the county is currently home to almost 1,400 vulnerable youngsters sent to live here by other local authorities, with some coming from as far away as Manchester, Birmingham and Wales but the majority from London boroughs.

Now a group of headteachers in Thanet say the situation has reached crisis point and are refusing to co-operate with Kent County Council in accepting any more such pupils.

Speaking on behalf of 13 secondary schools in the borough, Andy Somers – principal of Hartsdown Technology College, Margate – said he had written a letter to education chiefs at the authority telling them "enough is enough".

According to Mr Somers, Thanet currently has 108 children from outside the county compared to 35 in Canterbury, nine in Sevenoaks and five in Ashford.

"They see us as a soft target and use us as a dumping ground," he said. "It is hugely unfair on the children, who have very little time for social readjustment when they are uprooted and placed willy-nilly in a different setting.

"The situation has reached crisis point. Neither the schools or social services are able to meet the needs of such high numbers but KCC is still advertising for more foster carers in Thanet newspapers.

"We've now taken the decision that we will not take any more out-of-area looked-after children – in effect, we refuse to co-operate with KCC."

The issue of vulnerable youngsters being dumped in Thanet is nothing new due to the large number of care homes that currently exist in the borough.

Getting worse

Last week Tory Thanet North MP Roger Gale revealed that a 2004 inquiry into the problem had made little difference, and that London boroughs were still finding ways to bypass government legislation and offload their children into Kent.

South Thanet Tory MP Laura Sandys is due to meet with council heads in the capital to discuss the situation, and is also drafting a letter to London Mayor Boris Johnson asking him to intervene.

Mr Somers added: "My last head boy and his deputy were both looked-after children but a lot of these kids come with very high levels of need, and when they come in such large numbers it takes up a lot of time and resources.

"Refusing to accept any more wasn't a decision we took lightly. We've put our necks on the block but if we don't make a big noise then the problem is only going to get worse.

"We don't believe KCC has the authority to stop councils from placing children in Thanet, and that's why we are taking the matter into our own hands."

Cllr Sarah Hohler, cabinet member for children, families and education, said: "We share the concerns regarding the high number of looked-after children in Thanet. Some of these children are from the east Kent area and will be in local foster care.

"There are also a number of placements from out of county. We are in discussions with London authorities about where they place looked-after children. It is our belief many could be in care closer to their home town where they will benefit from familiar surroundings and contact with extended family members.

"Kent and particularly Thanet are attractive to other authorities because of the standard of children's services on offer. This puts pressure on services such as schools. We are hoping to make rapid progress with the London boroughs to resolve this."

OFFLOAD: MP Roger Gale says London councils bypass the legislation to dump their vulnerable children in Kent

BRAVE: Nicole Dryburgh with her brother Lee and mother Jackie Picture: JULES SERKIN

Memorial service for inspiring Nicole

A MEMORIAL service for inspirational cancer battler Nicole Dryburgh will be held at Canterbury Cathedral.

Nicole, from Whitstable, who raised more than £130,000 for charity despite being deaf, blind and confined to a wheelchair, died of a brain haemorrhage earlier this month aged 21.

The service will take place at 2pm on Tuesday, June 29.

Donations in lieu of flowers can be made at www.justgiving.com/nicolesfund, or sent to Nicole's Fund for Teenage Cancer Trust, PO Box 765, Haywards Heath RH16 9GE.

Antibiotics would have saved baby

AN INQUEST concluded that a new born baby died due to serious errors of clinical judgment by a hospital doctor who failed to prescribe antibiotics to her mother.

Libby Megan Godbold was born three weeks early on February 29, 2009, but passed away just days later after doctors failed to treat an infection brought on by her premature birth.

Libby's mother Charlene Kemp had a spontaneous rupture of her membranes when she was 36 weeks and five days into pregnancy – a condition caused when a mother's waters break before or at 37 weeks.

Unless treated with antibiotics the condition can lead to a bacterial infection and eventual sepsis.

Just hours after her birth, baby Libby began to experience breathing problems and became floppy and unresponsive. She was diagnosed with sepsis but suffered a number of seizures and had to be repeatedly resuscitated before dying on March 3, 2009.

Medway NHS Foundation Trust has admitted full liability for her death.

Passing a narrative verdict the jury noted: "The hospital has had in place for several years a protocol according to which Ms Kemp should have been prescribed the antibiotic to prevent infection. The Registrar decided not to follow protocol which was a clinical error of judgment.

"The prophylactic administration of antibiotics would, on balance of probabilities, have prevented Libby becoming infected and hence would have prevented her death.

"Ms Kemp should additionally have been prescribed another antibiotic at the onset of labour. The Registrar decided not to follow the protocol which was another clinical error of judgment."

Libby's mother Ms Kemp and father Michael Godbold attended the inquest at Maidstone County Court on May 23.

Speaking after the inquest Libby's mother said the couple felt cheated at the loss of their daughter. Ms Kemp added: "We loved Libby from the moment that we saw two blue lines on the pregnancy test. The day that Libby died, a huge part of us died also. I will never understand why Libby had to die because of what that doctor did."

A spokesman for Medway NHS Foundation Trust said: "Thorough investigations have taken place and the Coroner has confirmed he is satisfied that Trust has taken all appropriate steps to avoid a similar case occurring again in the future. Our sincerest sympathies remain with the family."

Free to be academy

KENT County Council says it will support schools wishing to break free from local authority control to become academies.

This week Education Secretary Michael Gove wrote to all 20,000 headteachers in England and Wales, promising them the chance to increase their budgets by up to 10 per cent if they sign up to the plan.

KCC cabinet member for schools Cllr Sarah Hohler said the authority was willing to discuss the new legislation at a series of meetings with heads next month.

She added: "World-beating schools in which all pupils achieve high standards embodies the vision not only of the government but also of Kent County Council, and we stand ready to play our part in that."

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Airport celebrates new daily route to Scotland

A NEW 80-minute route from Thanet to Edinburgh could breathe fresh life in to Manston airport.

Flybe launched the once-a-day return route in the hope of boosting passenger figures at Kent International Airport, owned by Infratil.

The new direct link to Scotland was marked on Thursday with passengers seen off by a chorus of bagpipes.

Paul Wookey, chief executive of Locate in Kent, said: "The return of scheduled daily passenger services to Edinburgh is good news for Kent as a business location.

"Apart from bringing much-needed direct and indirect employment in and around Thanet, and acting as a catalyst for the East Kent economy, the airport offers the traveller a real alternative to flying from the larger congested airports."

Infratil chief executive Tom Wilson said: "This new service demonstrates Manston's capabilities as a regional airport for the South East. Passengers will quickly realise how different it is from others they may use."

The first flight was completed using Flybe's fuel efficient 78-seat Bombardier Q-400 aircraft.

The daily scheduled passenger service to Edinburgh is set to continue all-year round.

Kent County Council leader Cllr Paul Carter said: "This will mean there will be a further 50,000 new passengers a year using the airport and Manston has the capacity for many more.

"Manston is an under-used asset and we wish to build its capacity as the regional airport of choice within the South East."

Sandra Matthews-Marsh, chief executive of Visit Kent, the county's destination marketing organisation added: "We are working with Flybe, Manston and our investors with a new marketing campaign to maximise the potential of this route and encourage visitors from Edinburgh and other parts of Scotland to take the flight to Kent and sample the great things the county has to offer."

Tickets are on sale at www.flybe.com from £24.99 one way including taxes and charges for travel through to March 26, 2011.

Children's Olympics is a Kent gold medal

Holmes has already given support to Games

By STEVE KNIGHT
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A SCHOOL Olympics scheme pioneered in Kent and supported by double gold-medallist Dame Kelly Holmes is to be transformed into a national event.

The Con-Lib coalition confirmed in its programme for government last week that it would introduce an annual sports and athletics initiative for youngsters, which sports minister Hugh Robertson had earlier said would be based on the model for the highly-successful Kent School Games.

Launched in 2008, the brainchild of Kent County Council leader Cllr Paul Carter is a bi-annual event enjoyed by thousands of pupils battling it out for supremacy in 38 different activities.

KCC cabinet member for communities Cllr Mike Hill – also a member of the Kent Campaign for the 2012 Games – welcomed the Government's announcement.

He said: "We're very pleased. We set up a little working group that Hugh Robertson (also the MP for Faversham and Mid Kent) and Derek Wyatt (former Labour MP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey) sat on, and they've been very helpful in advising us

"I'm delighted that these ideas have been taken forward onto a national level.

"I think there's a real hunger for this sort of thing. Children are naturally competitive, they like sport and they have been demanding the opportunity to show what they are capable of.

"The Kent School Games have been a great success for us.

"It takes a whole two years to run through all the heats and finals, but we are really encouraged by how well it has been received.

"Suddenly sports that have been in the doldrums are coming to the fore, and our schoolchildren are really embracing the positive ideals of the Olympic Games."

The heats for the second Kent School Games started last year, with more than 30,000 pupils aged five to 16 – including those with disabilities – taking part. The finals will be held in July.

Prime Minister David Cameron revealed the first School Olympics would begin next year and climax with a session held at the new Olympic Stadium in 2012.

He said a key reason in creating the scheme was so that it helped to make sure the London 2012 Games benefit the entire country and not just the capital.

The news is sure to be welcomed by double gold-medallist and Hildenborough resident Dame Kelly Holmes, who told KOS Media in October that she wanted the Kent School Games model to be adopted by whichever party won the General Election.

She said: "It was the mass participation and how so many people and agencies were running the events – the council, schools, teachers and young people that came on board.

"I thought it was absolutely brilliant and a great model to replicate around the country.

"I've been mulling over it. I'm always being asked my opinion or to back an initiative, and this was one of the things I was asked about and I said 'yes'."

INSPIRATIONAL: Dame Kelly Holmes won two Olympic gold medals in Athens in 2004

Saved by brambles

A MAN who fell 100ft over a cliff avoided death by clinging onto brambles.

The man, in his mid-50s, was found stranded on the 150ft high cliff, between Avendale Road and the Battle of Britain Memorial in Caple-Le-Ferne.

The Folkestone resident had stopped while walking, when he fell.

After spending an hour trying to set himself free, he dialled 999 from his mobile.

A 15-strong team of firefighters abseiled down the cliff to free him by attaching a harness and winching him to safety.

Dover watch manager Malcolm Cowie said: "I believe – despite inflicting a great deal of pain – that the bramble bush saved his live, as it prevented him from falling on to the railway line below."

To see this search 'Gillingham' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

Gills manager Andy Hessenthaler talks about the challenges ahead for his second stint in charge

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WORK has started on a new emergency gate for the central barrier of the M25.

The gate can be used after a serious incident when all lanes have been closed, to release queuing traffic onto the opposite carriageway.

Highways Agency workers began installing the 24m gate between junctions 5 and 6, near Clacket Lane services, on Monday, and it should be in place by this weekend.

THE INTERVIEW

BY JANE CONNOLLY

On course to growing your own dinners

PLANT expert Dave Davis is showing gardeners how to grow their own good life with new horticultural courses.

Twig Trading, based in Lamberhurst, has launched bespoke Plot to Plate courses to help people produce their own vegetables, fruits and herbs.

But unlike many courses, these are tailored specifically to each individual's needs and can be held in their own garden or allotment.

As head of horticulture at Twig Trading, Davis leads the courses and shows gardeners how to get the best out of their plot. A trained Royal Horticultural Society lecturer, he knows how students can struggle to get best value out of broader gardening courses.

"When I was a lecturer at Hadlow College, I found I was teaching 10-week courses and they were very general on a lot of subjects," he said.

"People would say, 'It was great, but it doesn't help me in my garden because it doesn't relate to my plot'.

"I came up with the idea because people want to learn about their garden, not planting trees in parkland. It's not a qualification, but it will enable them to work in their garden."

With more people seeing the benefits of growing their own produce, the Plot to Plate courses are already attracting interest.

"They tend to be the enthusiastic amateur who wants to get going, but doesn't know about the size of a bed or the soil quality and they are looking for guidance," he said.

"Because we've been working in lots of people's gardens as a landscape firm, we will recommend a vegetable area and raised beds. People will say, 'You've given me a wonderful plot, but I'm unsure how to start'."

Davis, 33, from Goudhurst, started his own horticultural career at the age of just 12, when he took on weekend work at his local nursery in Coventry.

He later worked on testing the plug plants that are sent out by post and then joined Hadlow College when he moved to Kent, before taking up his post with Twig Trading, which is Kent Business of the Year 2010.

Davis believes the courses can also be a lot of fun, as well as educational, and the format is open to negotiation.

"We are trying to tailor it to individuals. Generally it is one day, but then we can negotiate if they want more days or want me to come back at different times in the season."

With more gardeners looking to grow their own produce on some scale, Davis believes that the freshness of their own fruit and vegetables will always win people over.

"Supermarkets have a job to do, selling to the masses, but now people like things fresh. Plus, there is so little leisure time these days and it's nice to get out into the garden."

Courses start at £200 plus VAT for one day for groups of up to four people. To find out more call Miranda Eyre on 01892 890098 or visit www.twigtrading.co.uk.

PLOT TO PLATE: Dave Davis is running a horticultural course to help people begin growing

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County Hall welcomes Osborne deal

By MARIJKE COX
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

COUNCILS are to feel the strain of Government spending cuts after Chancellor George Osborne announced £1.165 billion reductions nationwide in local authority grants.

But instead of condemning the massive cuts, authorities have welcomed the decision after Mr Osborne said in return they would receive more flexibility when it came to managing their budgets.

Under the new Con-Lib coalition, ring-fencing of £1.7bn of Government grant funding will be scrapped for 2010-11.

It means officials at County Hall, who felt their hands were tied in terms of spending under the previous Government, will have a say over where money goes.

In Kent County Council's 2010-11 budget, the total figure of Government grants – excluding schools funding – is £585,624,000.

Tory leader Cllr Paul Carter said although future cuts could be significant, councils will have more control on a local level.

He said: "We are essentially going to be freed up.

"We won't have to do some of Government's prescribed projects as before where we had to spend specific grants on A, B or C. We can spend the money on our locality and our priorities."

Cllr Carter admitted, however, the nationwide figure of £1.165bn was a significant amount to lose.

"I suspect at KCC we are going to have to find £15m-£20m savings," he said. But we'll decide how that money is saved. We're not going to be controlled as previously with national Government.

"We will be able to make savings based on our priorities."

He added: "We'll know more next week when new Government will know exactly where the cuts are going to fall."

The Local Government Association, an organisation representing councils across the country, also stressed the importance of local control.

Chairman Dame Margaret Eaton said: "Locally elected councillors are closest to the people they serve. If there are tough decisions to make, they are best taken by people who know their area the best.

"It is good Government is giving councils more freedom over spending and starting the business of cutting the quango state down to size."

Dame Margaret said cuts are necessary and councils are ready to talk to the Government about how they are implemented to limit the impact on frontline services.

"Town halls have delivered savings year after year and know about taking difficult decisions on spending," she said.

"What we need is fundamental reform of the way the public sector works to cut the maze of public sector bodies, funding streams and bureaucracy that costs huge sums and stands in the way of delivering more for less.

"There are enormous opportunities to save billions if we grasp the nettle and cut out the middlemen who tie up huge sums in needless red tape."

Air ambulance tribute

THE chairman the Marsden-based Kent Air Ambulance, John Tickner, has paid tribute to a pioneer of the lifesaving helicopter service.

Sir Peter Baldwin, then chairman of South East Thames Regional Health Authority, signed an agreement with McAlpine Helicopters in November 1989.

A month later, South East Thames Air Ambulance took off for the first time from Rochester Airport .

Sir Peter, 87, died on May 9 after a long illness. His funeral was held in East Sussex, on Tuesday.

Mr Tickner said: "Kent Air Ambulance has over the last 20 years evolved into a first-class service and is a fitting tribute to the hard work and determination of Sir Peter."

MP's deputy speaker bid

VETERAN Tory MP Roger Gale is running for election as one of three deputy speakers of the House of Commons.

The 66-year-old North Thanet representative is already the most senior member of the Speaker's Panel of Chairman, and is now willing to give up his right to speak in the Commons as one of John Bercow's right-hand men.

Mr Gale said: "I think I'm regarded as fair and impartial when I'm in the chair but it seems to me that it's a job that has to be done, is one that is worthwhile and one that I might be tolerably good at."

MPs of all parties will be invited to vote on the matter, with the new deputies appointed on June 8. If appointed, Mr Gale will still be allowed to engage in constituency politics.

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PC in death trial

A POLICE officer has denied causing the death of a young mother-of-three in a car crash by driving dangerously.

PC Nigel Brown, 46, was driving an unmarked Skoda Octavia police car involved in a head-on collision with a car being driven by Felicity Austin on the A21 in Pembury on May 5 last year.

The nursery worker and mother from Hadlow died from injuries sustained in the crash.

PC Brown pleaded not guilty to causing her death by dangerous driving when he appeared at Maidstone Crown Court on Friday, May 21.

He was released on bail to return to this court on November 29 for a trial.

Bomber convicted

A YOB who detonated a large home-made bomb as part of a long-running confrontation with a shopkeeper is facing a jail term.

Mark Lee Marchant, of Pimpernel Way, Weedswood, Chatham, was arrested after an explosion in Yarrow Road in July last year.

The 28-year-old pleaded not guilty to a charge of causing an explosion likely to endanger life, but was convicted following a trial at Maidstone Crown Court.

The court was told how Marchant purposely filled an airbed with an accelerant and then set light to it on a fence to cause an explosion.

Marchant will be sentenced next month.

Show gets tasty

THIS Kent County Show will have themed food courts for the event on July 16-18.

New for this year is the International Food Court in the centre of the Detling Showground.

Produced in Kent will be alongside the horse rings, serving a variety of produce.

The advance ticket line is on 01622 633060 or book at www.kentshow.co.uk.

County Hall was 'badly prepared for the snow'

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

"DISJOINTED and poorly prepared" is how district council chiefs have described Kent's response to the chaotic snowstorms of last winter.

Roads were gridlocked, ferries delayed and trains cancelled during the worst period of icy weather in more than 30 years, resulting in three 'snow emergencies' being called between December and February.

And despite constant reassurances from Kent County Council that it was coping well with keeping the traffic moving, residents stuck for hours on motorways and in town centres remained unconvinced.

Their complaints have now been backed up by chief executives from some of the county's district and borough councils, who took part in a consultation to judge how well the authority fared.

A new report reveals that when the snow first came down, shortly before Christmas, the general consensus was that Kent Highway Services was "poorly prepared, without adequate plans in place".

It added that "staff were not available and communication was poor for most districts, if not all". The councils also criticised the poor local knowledge of important priority routes for some areas, the "disjointed" nature of Kent Highways, and the "ill-prepared" KCC call centre.

Picture: DAN SMITH

ALL WHITE NOW: Snow caused traffic and travel chaos during this year's cold weather

However, they did acknowledge that lessons were learned after the first period of snow and that improvements were made as the poor weather continued.

Cabinet member for highways, Cllr Nick Chard, admitted County Hall's initial response to the snowfall was not perfect, and welcomed the criticism.

He said: "What I'm pleased about is that Kent Highway Services wants to improve.

"This is the first time we've properly consulted people and asked what we did well, what we did less well and how we can improve.

"No it wasn't perfect, but it has enabled us to identify several areas where we clearly need to make improvements.

"It was the worst winter for 30 years and I hope we don't get another one like it for some time, but if we do we will be better prepared and people will have a clearer understanding of what they can expect from us."

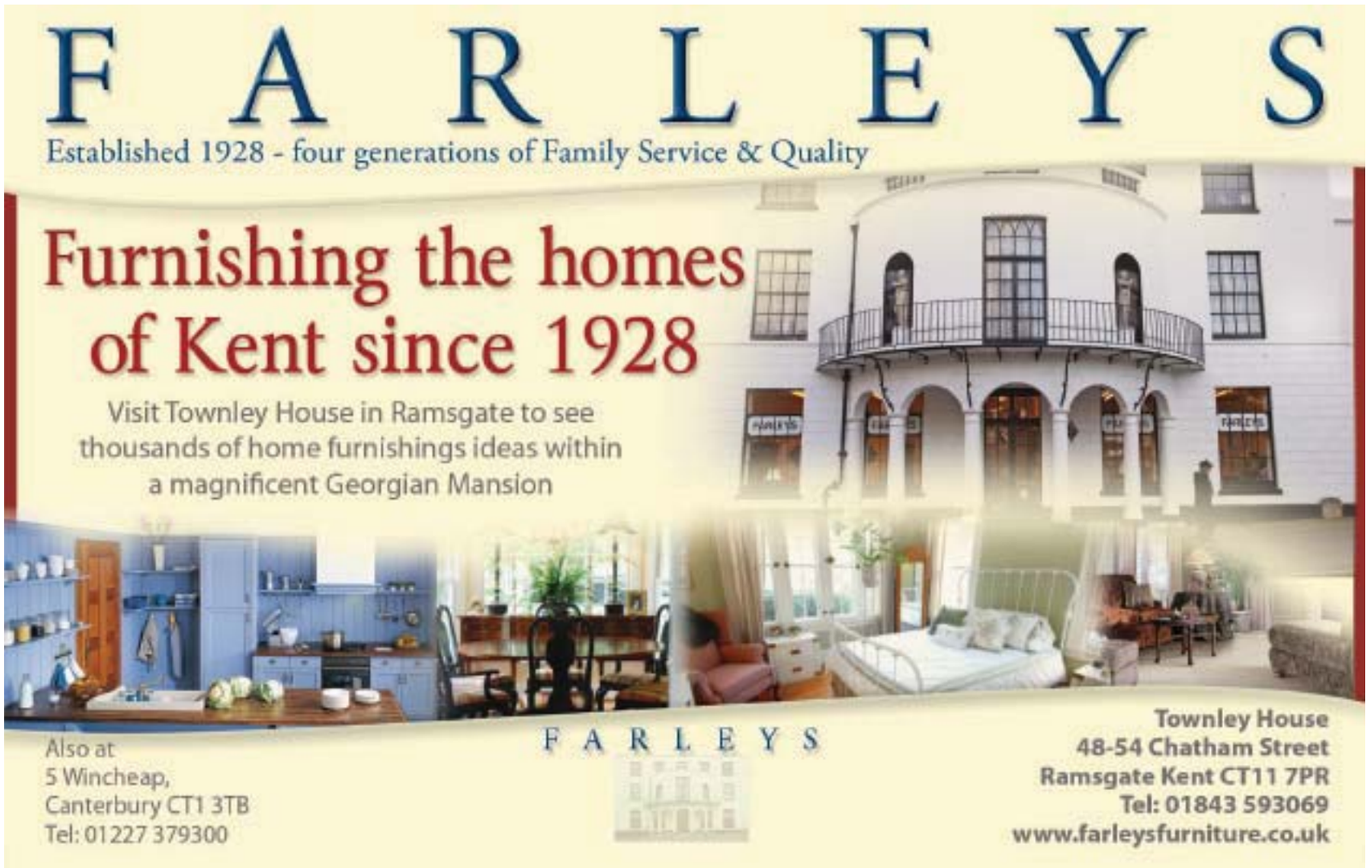
Cllr Chard's winter service review revealed that between October and December, almost 13,700 tons of salt was used on Kent's roads, compared to an average of just over 8,100 tons during the same period for the previous four years.

During the cold snap, workmen at the council's maintenance contractor Ringway were put on 24-hour duty, while Kent Highways staff were placed on a rota to work weekends.

However, pavements throughout the county went for days without being gritted and there was a lack of communication between district councils and KCC about which roads should be targeted first.

Cllr Chard said that in future there would be much greater clarity about how the two sides should be working together.

He added: "It's a service that impacts all residents to some extent, which is why it's so important we learn from past experiences."



Planning process changes 'restore local democracy'

A SHAKE-UP of the planning system that promises more power for local authorities has been welcomed in Kent, ***writes Steve Knight***.

The Government proposals announced last week include the abolition of the Infrastructure Planning Commission and the scrapping of the South East Plan, which sets specific housing targets for towns throughout the region.

Also included are plans to crack down on 'garden grabbing' – where gardens are sold off and crammed with new properties – and to create new protection for green areas of particular importance to local communities.

Sean Furey, deputy director of the Protect Kent, the county's branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England, said there were a lot of things to be positive about.

"It's potentially a good thing if we're going to see more local decision-making," he said.

"The point of all the regional plans was so central government could devolve to local planners, but it ended up being the other way around. The power went the wrong way and a lot of things were imposed on Kent as a result.

"Hopefully this trend can now be reversed because local authorities know the local issues better."

The official aim of the South East Plan was to ensure the region remained "economically successful and an attractive place to live for future generations". A final version of the document was published by the former Labour government in May last year, and included a housing target of 32,700 homes per year up to 2026.

Mr Furey said he was pleased these targets would now be removed, but was concerned it could undermine the regeneration efforts in towns like Ashford, Dover, Sittingbourne and Dartford. He also voiced his support for the removal of policy support for rail-freight depots, which he said could kill off the proposed BIG depot at Wrotham, Platt and Borough Green.

Kent County Council leader Paul Carter admitted it was "back to the drawing board" for many development schemes, adding that some would never have been successful anyway.

He said: "There were some overly grandiose and over-ambitious schemes that were thought about, but in the current economic climate would never have seen the light of day.

Cllr Carter said he was also pleased to see the back of the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC), which since March this year has been accepting applications for descision on major projects such as power stations and wind farms.

His view that it was an unelected quango that "got in the way" was backed by Mr Furey, who added that there was "very little democratic accountability".

Sisters act is behind fall in hospital bugs

THEY conjure up images of formidable women who once ruled hospital wards with an iron fist – and now the matrons are back.

Not only have they reclaimed what was essentially theirs in the mid-20th century by taking back control of the wards, matrons – or ward sisters as they are known – have helped slash infection rates at hospitals at the centre of the worst outbreak in Britain.

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust came under fire three years ago when it was discovered by health watchdogs that up to 90 patients had died of Clostridium difficile between 2004 and 2006 across its three hospitals: Maidstone, Kent and Sussex, and Pembury, in Tunbridge Wells.

A report by the Healthcare Commission said nurses at the trust were too rushed to wash their hands and that patients were left to lie in their own excrement.

So in 2008, health chiefs made the crucial decision to put power back in the hands of ward sisters. And new figures show that since doing so cases of C diff have reduced by 60 per cent and MRSA by 33 per cent.

Flo Panel-Coates, director of nursing at the trust, said sisters are now the leaders of their wards and guardians of patient care.

"They now have up to three days protected time each week to physically lead improvements on their wards and enhance the patient experience," she said.

The trust has also freed up sisters' supervisory time by employing more nurses on each ward to cover for the time they would normally spend on direct patient care.

NHS bosses say it means sisters are now better able to monitor standards of care, such as cleanliness, incidents and errors, pressure ulcers and vulnerable patient care.

Ms Panel-Coates said: "Ward sisters now have the autonomy and time to make changes for the better. While they are individually responsible for their wards, they are also collectively committed to helping one another improve patient care throughout the trust."

The Healthcare Commission began investigations into the trust after a number of complaints about cleanliness, although the trust claimed there had been no deaths from C diff despite there being hundreds of cases on infection. It found that C diff, a bacterial infection of the stomach, was definitively or probably the main cause of death for 90 patients.

A NEW private hospital offering patients specialist procedures currently unavailable in the county is being planned by 150 top doctors.

The Kent Institute of Medicine and Surgery, which is expected to cost around £80 million, will specialise in heart, lung and brain surgery.

At the moment, patients needing these procedures have to travel out of the county.

According to Maidstone Borough Council, the facility, which will be based at Newnham Court just outside the town centre, will also be one of the top teaching hospitals for cardiac surgery.

It received planning approval in May, 2009.

The state-of-the-art facility, which is not intended to replace NHS hospitals, would employ some 120 clinicians.

It will be the first private hospital built for 20 years in Kent.

Part of the funding is reported to have come from personal pledges from doctors involved in the project, with further reports that a finance firm has also been taken on to help find an investor.

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At risk register draws attention to unique properties which need looking after

By CHRIS MURPHY
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

IN NEED: Clockwise from above: The Gas Works, Ramsgate; Lido, Margate; Wren's Cross and 34 Lower Stone Street, both in Maidstone, are all on the list

Sleeping beauties need love

A LEADING conversation charity which highlights Britain's best unloved properties has already seen a major success in Kent.

Every year, SAVE puts together a register of some of Britain's finest buildings that are in need of tender loving care.

This year, while the catalogue was prepared, St Edward's Presbytery in Ramsgate was sold to the Landmark Trust.

Rhiannon Tracy, the buildings at risk officer for SAVE Britain's Heritage, said: "We consider this a major success as it seems this fine building really will be maintained forever.

"This is just what we want to achieve. The buildings we have highlighted in Kent are all in need. Britain is losing enough classic properties as it is – we need to do more to save those remaining."

Marcus Binney, a renowned architectural historian and author, said: "Every year SAVE sets out on a treasure hunt to find a selection of 'sleeping beauties' across England and Wales. Any building type can qualify, so long as it is curious, interesting, unloved and crying out for a new owner or new use."

Included in the new Live or Let Die catalogue is No 27 St Dunstan Street, Canterbury. SAVE said of this property: "This early 16th century house has been vacant for five years and is neglected.

"The roof is in a bad condition and there is concern over possible structural movement. The house is offered to let but cannot be occupied until restoration work is complete – for which planning permission is pending."

And of 34 Lower Stone Street, Maidstone, it said: "Located in the centre of Maidstone, this modest timber-framed building, refronted in the 18th century, has been vacant for some time and is now in poor condition."

Detailing the needs of Wren's Cross, Upper Stone Street, Maidstone, SAVE said: "Once the police headquarters, this early 19th-century villa in the centre of Maidstone is in a sorry state. It is owned by the county council and has been disused for a number of years."

Even the famous Lido and Cliftonville Baths in Margate, gets a mention. SAVE said: "Margate's 1920s seafront lido is now a rather sad testament to the town's past as a major seaside resort.

The cream coloured art deco complex with its porthole windows, bright red roof tiles and four-sided Lido beacon has been closed for 30 years. The swimming pool is now filled with sand."

Highlighting the Gas Works, Boundary Road, Ramsgate, SAVE said: "Vacant for a number of years, the building is in a relatively good state of repair and is weatherproof, but its future is in doubt unless a new use is found.

"This handsome building has huge potential and would be an exciting and challenging conversion project. It could make wonderful offices, flats or a single dwelling."

Finally the newly-purchased presbytery: "St Edward's Presbytery is the work of the celebrated Victorian Gothic Revival architect, AWN Pugin and his son Edward. The building is now at risk following the recent departure of the monks from the adjoining Benedictine monastery."

• For moredetails, to subscribe, or to buy the catalogue for £15, see www.savebritainsheritage.org.

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Becks' Gurkha tribute

By NICK AMES
nick.ames@kosmedia.co.uk

FORMER England captain David Beckham met up with the Gurkhas when he visited Camp Bastion in Helmand Province, Afghanistan.

He spoke to members of the Kent-based regiment and posed for pictures, as well as taking part in a short ceremony at a religious shrine the Nepalese soldiers set up on the base.

As a memento of his visit, the soldiers from 1st Battalion Royal Gurkha Rifles, based at Shorncliffe Barracks in Folkestone, presented the former Manchester United and England skipper with a traditional kukri knife.

Beckham, who arrived at Camp Bastion wearing a helmet and body armour, said: "To see the morale of the troops is really incredible. It first kind of hit me on the way over when we were on the military plane flying into Afghanistan.

Focused

"You can see the faces, you can see obviously they know they are leaving their families, but they're so focused and they've got this look in their eyes that they're just so confident and ready. That really is an unbelievable sight to see, and you feel it as well."

His three-day visit started last Friday and began with a 7.30am fried breakfast in the cookhouse and included a tour of the camp, which is currently home to 9,000 British soldiers, as well as several hundred other coalition troops

Beckham was shown how to handle weaponry, given a metal detector demonstration and even scored a penalty on a makeshift goal in the sand, which had a net constructed from camouflage material.

MORALE BOOST: David Beckham is shown how to handle weaponry and pays his respects at memorial (right) in Afghanistan

During the visit Beckham also paid his respects to soldiers who have lost their lives battling the Taliban at the memorial to casualties on the base.

On his last day he also saw British Army dog teams in action.

Flags of St George were flown even more than usual at the base for the visit, which was a major boost to morale in a military base where watching football on television is one of the troops' favourite pastimes.

Beckham, 35, who is missing the World Cup through injury, said: "Just yesterday one of the troops was killed, and you feel it and you see the flags at half-mast and you feel the tension there. It really is, like I said, amazing to be around but you feel the love from everybody.

"It really is scary work. These guys are the bravest people I've ever met and it truly is an honour to be here."

SEA VIEW: Artist's impression of the new restaurant at Folkestone harbour

Place to hang out and enjoy finest seafood

A £2 MILLION fish restaurant is to be built in Folkestone harbour in time for the 2011 Triennial arts festival after winning approval from Shepway councillors.

The 430sq m design, drawn up by Guy Hollaway Architects on behalf of the Folkestone Harbour Company, is at the forefront of the seafront regeneration unveiled by Sir Terry Farrell last week.

The striking contemporary building, which will house a restaurant and bar, will cantilever out over the harbour.

It will replace the former Cabin Café and Jetty's Bar, and will serve high-quality fish and seafood.

People will be able to see into the kitchen thanks to a large, glazed façade and it is hoped the restaurant will support local traders including fishermen and employ local people.

Canterbury firm Cardy Construction Ltd will carry out the building work.

The Dunkirk Spirit lives on in Flotilla

RESCUE: Hundreds of thousands of men were ferried to safety on all manner of boats

By **NICK AMES**
reporting from Dunkirk

VETERANS of one of the most significant operations of World War Two paid respects to fallen comrades and remembered the events of 70 years ago as they arrived in Dunkirk on Thursday.

The anniversary marked the evacuation of the French port, codenamed Operation Dynamo, which took place between May 26 and June 4, 1940.

A flotilla of 900 naval and civilian craft was sent across the Channel under RAF protection and managed to rescue 338,226 people.

During the evacuation, the Luftwaffe attacks reduced the town of Dunkirk to rubble and destroyed 235 vessels and 106 aircraft. At least 5,000 soldiers lost their lives.

Although the Germans took more than a million Allied prisoners in three weeks at a cost of 60,000 casualties, the evacuation was a major boost to British morale.

Hundreds of small vessels set sail to bring the troops off the beaches after an order was issued on BBC Radio to "all owners of self-propelled pleasure craft between 30 and 100ft in length to send all particulars to the Admiralty".

The Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, described the "miracle of deliverance" from Dunkirk and warned of an impending invasion in a moving speech to Parliament on the day the last Allied soldier arrived home at the end of the 10-day operation.

The Dunkirk Spirit has passed into British folklore and the originators of that phrase were remembered proudly on Thursday along with the events of early summer 1940.

Veterans, along with guests, schoolchildren and representatives of the Help for Heroes charity arrived in Dunkirk on the Norfolkline ship Maersk Dover, accompanied by the Band of The Parachute Regiment.

Many of the remaining Little Ships also made the crossing for remembrance ceremonies in Dunkirk.

Freddie Hunn, from Crowborough, was a sergeant serving with the 12th Royal Lancers

THE legend of the Little Ships lives on.

In Ramsgate this week dozens of craft sailed into the harbour to re-enact the miraculous rescue of thousands upon thousands of Allied troops from the beaches of Dunkirk 70 years ago.

Ships of all shapes and sizes moored up as part of the town's Dynamo Day celebrations, which attracted thousands of people.

The event marked the sailors' heroics as well as the town's part in the rescue of more than 300,000 servicemen from the war-torn Normandy, as the Nazis made their relentless drive to the French beaches.

And no better example of the Dunkirk Spirit exists than the story of the vessel the Tom Tit. The boat made 16 trips back and forth to larger carrier vessels, during the extraordinary evacuation effort.

It was taken without permission from Ramsgate harbour by two young Thanet brothers, Ron and Alan Tomlinson, who worked for local firm Claxton Shipwrights.

Their only thought was to help the evacuation, and they took off across the Channel with not concern for their own safety.

The brothers feared they would get in trouble for their efforts and be arrested, but they were commended and praised for their bravery when they arrived back home.

Rescue ship

The Tom Tit is now under the ownership of skipper Trevor Phillips, who believes it may have helped rescue up to 500 men and was one of the last boats at Dunkirk as it rescued troops from a pier as the Germans were at the other end.

He said: "What they did was a seriously treacherous thing – the boat caught fire twice. These lads were determined to do their bit and that's a fantastic achievement."

Trevor keeps the boat in first class order, and it spends most of its time in the Thames near his home in Weybridge.

The Tom Tit, a port cruiser, was among the 50 boats that made the crossing to Dunkirk on Thursday.

Many of those who sail the Little Ships say they feel more like custodians of pieces of history than boat owners.

Skipper of the motor cruiser Wanda, Tony Farncombe, said: "It's a responsibility. These boats die very quickly if they don't get regular attention. We have to look after them."

Ian Gilbert owns the motor yacht Papillon, which was built in 1930.

He said: "When I had the chance to buy a Dunkirk Little Ship it seemed like too good an opportunity to miss, but these are pieces of history and we must remember that and maintain them in such a way.

"This is my third return and every five

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our memories

when he was evacuated from the beaches.

He described looking back at Dunkirk as a "vision of hell".

"When the evacuation started we were part of a rearguard and our job was to fight the Germans off to give the soldiers time to get on board the ships.

"The sky was black with German aircraft. Messerschmitt fighters would swoop in and open fire. It was terrible."

Now 90 and retired from the Army with the rank of major, Freddie said one of his memories was how outgunned and under-equipped the British Forces were in 1940.

"As we retreated we destroyed the bridges to slow the German advance. And when we arrived on the beaches I saw my commanding officer Col Herbert Lumsden. He told me to help urge the soldiers to get on the little boats.

"They were attached to the shore by ropes and we were getting off 1,000 men an hour.

"For two full days and nights I didn't sleep and when the last of the soldiers was off we were told we had to fight to the last man and the last round, and I didn't think we were going anywhere.

"Then the order to evacuate came. I made my way to a mud dredger, of all things. I had to be lifted onboard as the bombs came down.

"When we set off I looked back at Dunkirk and it was like a vision of hell with smoke and flames pouring from the ruins.

"The next thing I knew seven hours later was someone shouting 'we're in Margate'."

George Kemp of the Queen's Cameron Highlanders joined the Army in 1940 after seeing footage of the Dunkirk evacuation on the cinema news. He said: "I knocked two years off my age in order to join up. It's an honour to pay tribute to the men of Dunkirk.

"It's great to meet up with some of my former comrades and it's also great to see many current soldiers giving us so much respect."

sets sail again

Words and pictures: TOM BETTS

LITTLE: Dozens of original boats sailed into Ramsgate harbour to re-live the brave Dunkirk rescue mission. Inset is Trevor Phillips with his Little Ship, the Tom Tit

years it becomes more of an occasion, it's a fabulous thing to be involved in."

Hundreds of war veterans turned out for Dynamo Day on Wednesday, and the town buzzed with people as the new forces sweetheart Kas sang standards to the crowds.

The poignant atmosphere was also evident in the harbour area where members of the public were invited down to meet the Little Ships' owners and crews.

Soldiers' guardian angel to be rescued from decay

AS THE celebrations marking the 70th anniversary of the Dunkirk flotilla got under way this week, it was revealed one of the most famous Little Ships has won financial backing for its restoration.

The 180ft Medway Queen has been lying in pieces at Chatham's historic dockyard and other secret safe locations for years, while a dedicated team of skilled volunteers begged and borrowed the skills needed to put her back together once more.

Now the GMB union and the group behind the rebuild have revealed EU funding is available for joint working with French and Belgium ship restoration projects.

It will provide apprenticeship and training opportunities in Medway and, as part of the Heroes 2C programme, will let them work on the small ship.

The Medway Queen Preservation Society said its application for the Euro cash was approved and will give the 1924 paddle steamer built for the coastal excursion trade a new lease of life.

The incredible vessel won the hearts of the people of Medway when she battled to cross the Channel seven times to pluck ailing Allied troops from the beach at Dunkirk.

She saved the lives of 7,000 men and was one of the last to snatch men from the harbour area, before being returned to passenger duties and finally retired in 1963. She may have survived the artillery and gunfire from German lines, but time took its toll and she finally sank.

In 1987, she was acquired, still as a sunken wreck, by the Medway Queen Preservation Society, and a new battle started.

The project to rebuild the hull according to the 1924 specifications recently took a step forward with money from the Heritage Lottery Fund, but still more is needed.

FIRST STEP: The hull of the Medway Queen is being rebuilt in Bristol

The Medway Queen is currently dismantled and the hull is being rebuilt at Albion Dockyard in Bristol. Once the hull is completed, the plan is to tow her back to Medway for fitting out. This is the work that will provide vital apprenticeship and training opportunities in Medway.

For the Heroes 2C programme, trainees participate in the work needed, learning essential trades on the way.

Alf George, a former anti-tank gunner said: "I will never forget the debt I owe to the Medway Queen. That old lady against the harbour wall was one of the greatest sights of my life."

Alf was 20 when he was hauled on to the deck on the ship's penultimate crossing.

He said: "When we reached Dunkirk, we watched from the dunes for a day and night as the beach was attacked. We were under fire all the time, I couldn't see how we were supposed to escape. Then I looked down over the lip and saw this little old paddle steamer."

The 90-year-old from Ashford, said: "I call her my guardian angel. She is the Heroine of Dunkirk."

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Fears elected commissioner would be a vote too far for police reform

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

POLICE chiefs in Kent have blasted proposals to hand the running of constabularies over to "politically-motivated" commissioners elected by the public.

Controversial plans for the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill were included in the Queen's Speech this week, much to the dismay of several key figures who are concerned the chasing of votes could take priority over the pursuit of criminals.

The proposals would also result in big changes for the unelected police authorities currently tasked with appointing chief constables, setting budgets and ensuring value for money for the taxpayer.

Kent Police Authority chairwoman Ann Barnes, pictured – also deputy chair of the Association of Police Authorities – said the scheme appeared to be driven "purely by dogma" and was "undermined by the absence of debate".

She added: "Senior police officers and many MPs and peers of all parties have already commented on the dangers to our highly-acclaimed model which keeps policing free from party-political interference, but we fear the public is unaware of the turmoil that may be unleashed by these fresh proposals.

"The present model has built-in checks and balances that enable police authorities to represent the views of local people when shaping the local service.

"Police authorities want to ensure policing continues to be influenced at local and national levels by community voices – not by unconstrained individuals who may have a politically-motivated agenda."

KPA currently consists of 17 non-elected board members, including a mix of independents and different party members from Kent County Council and Medway Council. New Tory Rochester and Strood MP Mark Reckless is also on the board.

But should the Con-Lib plans for directly-elected commissioners get the go-ahead, just one person will be afforded responsibility for the running of the county force.

Kent Police Federation chairman Ian Pointon said: "What's broken? We have a robust authority here in Kent, led by an excellent chairwoman who does hold the force to account, and one that consists of good people who bring different abilities, skills and expertise to the table.

Extremists

"One person cannot replace all those good people, and mixing party politics with the running of the police is something we should avoid at all costs."

Under the basic proposal included in the Conservative manifesto, local people would elect an official who would then set priorities for the force. The chief constable would in turn be expected to meet these priorities.

However, there are concerns the plan could open the door to candidates with extremist views or personal agendas.

Veteran Thanet North Tory MP Roger Gale said he supported the idea as long as people knew who they were voting for.

He said. "I'm all for openness, transparency and accountability but in practice we need to make sure those voting are qualified to do so.

"I think we're still going to have police authorities because these people are going to have to compile the shortlist.

"You can't have an open season where anyone puts their name forward."

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New chief ready to make changes

THE new chief constable of Kent will be asked to deliver widespread changes similar to those he helped oversee in his home county.

Ian Learmonth, pictured, 52, played a key role in an extensive reorganisation programme at Norfolk Constabulary – where he was deputy chief constable – and his success was one of the major factors in him landing the £150,000-a-year Kent Police job.

The force is expecting to lose £20 million from its budget over the next few years, leaving the new man with a tough task.

Kent Police Authority chairwoman Ann Barnes said she was confident the panel had appointed the right man, adding: "He has a wealth of experience and is just what we were looking for."

Mr Learmonth, who has been a serving police officer since 1976, was announced as Kent's new chief constable last week.

He beat three other candidates to earn the right to replace former chief Mike Fuller, who left Kent in March to take up a new position as chief inspector of the Crown Prosecution Service.

But despite Mr Learmonth's experience in delivering change, Mrs Barnes insisted that was not the only reason he was appointed.

While serving as deputy at Norfolk, Mr Learmonth had responsibility for support services, roads policing, emergency planning and most of the major projects on operational policing.

Mrs Barnes added: "He's a very straightforward, down-to-earth sort of guy and is already planning to go out on the beat. He's a real copper's copper."

Mr Learmonth said: "I'm thrilled and delighted to have the opportunity to work within a high performing force."

Mrs Barnes said she hoped Mr Learmonth would be able to start his new job in early July. Deputy Chief Constable Adrian Leppard will continue to fill in temporarily.

COLLEAGUES of Ian Learmonth say Kent Police have pulled off a coup by appointing him their new chief constable.

Dave Benfield – general secretary of the Norfolk Police Federation – said he would give Mr Learmonth "10 out of 10" for the job he had done.

He added: "We are absolutely delighted for him that he has now achieved chief constable status, but from a professional standpoint we will be sorry to see him go."

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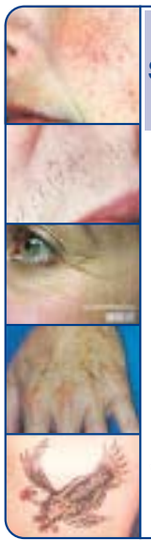
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Schools alerted after girl is attacked in park by cyclist

A TEENAGE girl was accosted while walking across a recreation ground.

The 15-year-old was at The Warren, in Valley Drive, Gravesend, at around 8.30am on Tuesday, May 25, when a man rode past her on his bike.

As she walked around a corner she saw the man's bike on the floor and he asked her the time before lunging at her.

He allegedly tried to pull her into a bush, but she struggled and got away.

The attacker is white, aged 20-27, with short dark hair and brown eyes, clean shaven and slim and wearing a dark jacket and jeans.

The bike he was riding was dark-coloured with thin tyres and big wheels.

Schools in the area have been warn them about what happened.

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Yet another hike in rail tickets on cards

COMMUTERS are facing the highest train fare rises in the country – despite disappointing passenger numbers on some high-speed Kent lines, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

Costs could go up by as much as three per cent above the retail price index (RPI), which is currently 5.3 per cent, meaning annual season tickets from eastern parts of the county into London may rise by around £350 to £4,230.

In certain areas it could be even higher if Southeastern bosses choose to raise the cost even more on the more popular routes.

Pricing regulations allow the company flexibility to increase prices by up to five per cent, as long as the overall average across the area does not go above RPI plus three per cent.

Tunde Olatunji, Kent manager for Passenger Focus, an independent watchdog for rail users, said passengers are right to feel cheated. "They will be paying higher fares than anywhere else in the country," he said.

All other train companies are limited to a rise of RPI plus one per cent.

But officials at Southeastern said the three per cent figure was part of a franchise agreement, which had been in place for the last four years.

A spokesman said: "This is not necessarily the amount tickets will go up by – that is the most they are allowed go up by."

He could not confirm tickets would not rise by this amount in January, after the new RPI is set in July.

A Department of Transport spokesman put the higher figure down to replacement of train stock in Kent.

He also stressed that Whitehall officials tried to strike a balance between the railway's two sources of funding; the taxpayer and fare payer.

Flexibility

He said: "Southeastern's fare cap of RPI plus three per cent for five years from 2007, has been allowed in recognition of historically lower fares.

"It also allows for the investment to replace the rolling stock that has been running for more than 40 years on the Kent services."

But Mr Olatunji said apart from High Speed One (HS1), Southeastern has a mix of old and new trains.

"South West Trains has a large number of new trains and their rail users aren't paying more," he said.

Mr Olatunji said that from January people will feel the increase because last year's inflation was negative.

"Passengers only saw an increase of about 1.6 per cent," he said.

"There was a uniform rise in fares across the country, but this will change from next January.

"As long as Southeastern have RPI plus three per cent overall as an average, they can put prices up.

"It gives them flexibility to increase some fares on routes that make the most money and compensate by decreasing fares on routes where only one man and his dog use it.

"It means some rail users may even have to pay 11 or 12 per cent more, while others pay eight per cent more."

Roger Gale, MP for North Thanet, said: "I'm perpetually horrified the travelling public in east Kent are being made to pay more for less.

"The service is now slower and yet more expensive than ever before. They are being made to pay for a high speed service they don't use."

Fares for mainline services and HS1 are regulated in the same way, but the cost of introducing the new HS1 is paid for by those who use the service through higher ticket prices.

In April, train bosses were forced to remove three HS1 trains – made up of 18 carriages costing £1 million each – after it failed to generate enough demand on the north Kent line.

Southeastern admitted it was down to a slower uptake in the area, blaming the short length of time the service had been available.

The RPI is used to set regulated fares such as season and off-peak tickets.

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Anonymity for rape defendants divides experts

By MARIJKE COX
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

A RADICAL change in the law, which will see people accused of rape granted anonymity, has divided those who work with victims of sexual assault.

Under the new Government, restrictions will be placed on naming rape defendants, giving them the same privilege as a victim in the run-up to a trial.

Victims and accusers are granted anonymity and, with the new law, only convicted rapists will ever be named.

The controversial change was outlined in the Con-Lib coalition agreement in a bid to stop false allegations ruining the lives of the accused, despite the subject being left out of the parties' manifestos.

It was, however, made a party policy for the Lib Dems in 2006 after father-of-two Warren Blackwell was falsely accused of a sex attack by a woman with a history of crying rape.

Despite similar cases, the new change in law has sparked outrage with rape support campaigners, who believe it suggests many women are lying when they report a rape.

But victims helped by specialist counselling charity Family Matters, in Gravesend, have split opinions.

Malcolm Gilbert, spokesman for the organisation that helps rape victims in the county, said: "One group said people should be innocent until proven guilty, while others thought it was outrageous. There was a real split view.

"I think one of the worries for Family Matters is this change could discourage reports of attacks. A person is more likely to come forward if they see another victim of their attacker come forward.

"The change also indicates that we believe a lot of women lie about being raped."

Mr Gilbert, who agreed malicious false allegations were detrimental to a person's life, said he found it surprising the change was brought in when it was not included in either parties' manifestos.

"It's been whipped in like a frisbee without any consultation with people who would know most about it," he said.

Official statistics show that only six per cent of all reports of rape lead to a conviction, but in more than 50 per cent of the cases that make it to trial a guilty verdict is recorded.

In 2009, Peter Bacon, a student chef from Canterbury, was found not guilty after being falsely accused of rape.

A jury took just 45 minutes to find him not guilty, but the 26-year-old changed his name and left the country to try to get away from the stigma the accusation had left.

His accuser is still granted anonymity.

Ian Pointon, chairman of the Kent Police Federation, said rape is a nasty allegation and one which impacts on a person's life.

Paedophiles

He said: "If a person's name is splashed across the papers, but the trial collapses because the victim says it didn't happen like that, they've had their lives turned upside down. It's very difficult to take back."

Mr Pointon said anonymity could also be stretched to other crimes.

"You could argue that people who are accused of being paedophiles also have their lives destroyed if they are found not guilty," he said. "There will always be people who believe there's no smoke without fire."

In 1976, Labour introduced anonymity for defendants, but it was repealed 12 years by the Tories, who claimed it would make it less likely for other victims to come forward.

A Ministry of Justice spokeswoman said: "We will grant anonymity to defendants accused of rape. This is a sensitive area and careful analysis of the options and implications will be undertaken."

Guilty verdict for park rapist

A RAPIST has been found guilty of attacking a woman as she slept in a park.

James McDonagh, of Coppermill Lane, Walthamstow, was found guilty by a jury at Maidstone Crown Court of the attack in Mote Park, Maidstone, on June 20, 2009.

His 31-year-old victim was sleeping rough when two of McDonagh's accomplices pinned her down while he raped her. The other two attackers have never been found.

McDonagh originally pleaded not guilty and continued to change his version of accounts throughout the trial.

The jury's guilty verdict was unanimous. He will be sentenced on July 2.

Det Sgt Graham Hooks said: "This was a brutal and cowardly attack."

Taking the brakes off cyclists' pedal power

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

CYCLING will be showcased to key national and local decision-makers in an attempt to improve the environment and people's health.

The Cycle Kent 2010 event will be held at Shorne Woods Country Park, Gravesend, next month and will be attended by representatives from the Department of Health, the British Olympics team and other relevant bodies.

County Hall chiefs are keen to promote bicycles over cars and trains for short-distance journeys, and believe more needs to be done to alter people's transport habits.

A report to Kent County Council this week revealed that investment in cycle infrastructure is more than five times more cost-effective than other transport schemes.

It reads: "Cycling offers a unique combination of well-demonstrated benefits which are not provided by any other forms of transport. These include improved health, well-being and fitness, as well as reductions in pollution and congestion.

"However, continued investment in a safe, high-quality cycle network as well as in training and promotion is required to increase the number of people choosing to cycle on a regular basis. Cycle Kent 2010 brings together a new strategic approach with support from stakeholders to ensure we achieve a well-planned network that is popular, safe and convenient to use."

According to the Department for Transport, only two per cent of journeys to and from railway stations are made by bicycle, despite 60 per cent of the national population living within a 15-minute ride of one.

Cycling England estimates that if just 2.25 per cent of all journeys were made by bicycle – compared to the current figure of 1.5 per cent – then the Government would save £1.3 billion in costs related to ill health, pollution and congestion.

Aside from the Cycle Kent event on June 18, KCC is also attempting to raise awareness of the 416 miles of cycle network in the county, as well as the various school and community projects on offer.

Before being ousted from Parliament, former Dover and Deal Labour MP Gwyn Prosser was chairman of the All-Party Cycling Group. He is also a member of the national cyclists' organisation CTC.

Mr Prosser said: "Once you get interested in cycling you remain a cyclist for life, so any encouragement has to be welcomed."

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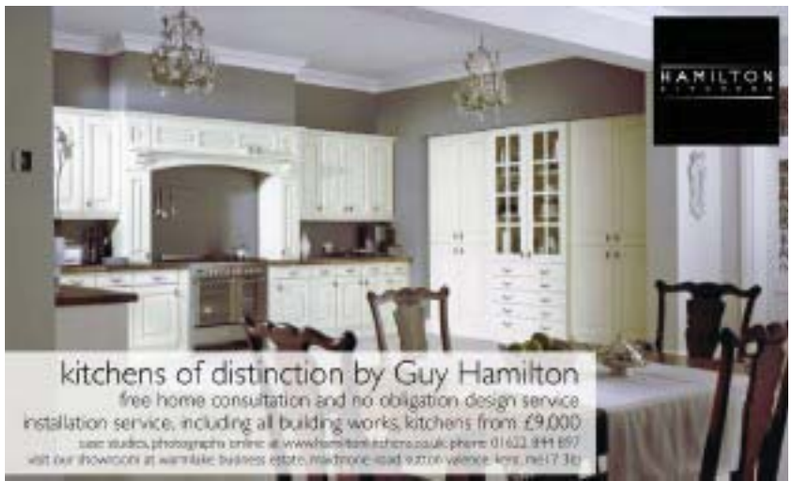

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From **£8,150**

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2008 BK Grosvenor 37x12ft

This luxury holiday home is as new and in immaculate condition throughout. This model offers the very best in holiday home luxury. Modern style lounge with feature fire place, dining area with dining table and four chairs, stylish kitchen with a range of fitted units, oven, hob and fridge freezer. A hallway leads to two generous bedrooms and an en-suite shower room.
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On a great pitch close to the entertainment complex and only yards away from the beach access. Very good condition throughout and comprising of lounge with feature fire place and modern kitchen with dining area. Bathroom with modern suite and 3 bedrooms.

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2002 BK Caprice 36x12ft

A lovely 2 bedroom caravan with new patio and upvc skirting sited on a large, quiet plot away from the main complex. Lounge with freestanding suite, a modern kitchen with a range of units, range style cooker and fridge. Two generous bedrooms and shower room complete this holiday home. First to see will buy!

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NEW BEACH HOLIDAY PARK

A MAN has been banned from driving for 56 days after being caught doing nearly double the speed limit.

Paul Swords, 34, of Rougemont, West Malling, will also have to pay a £1,000 fine.

He admitted driving a Bentley Continental at 88mph in a 50mph limit on the A228 West Malling bypass on September 19, 2009.

Swords pleaded guilty to speeding at Sittingbourne Magistrates Court on May 12.

The court heard a traffic police officer on a motorbike had to travel at up to 127mph to catch the speeding driver.

THE BIG TIME: Jessica Alba, Abbie Cornish, director Margaret Brown, director Clio Barnard, producer Eric Steel, and director Marshall Curry

University lecturer gets top US film award

A KENT university film-maker is a winner at this year's Tribeca International Film Festival, which was established by screen legend Robert De Niro, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

Clio Barnard, from the University of Kent, took the prize for Best New Documentary Filmmaker for her film The Arbor.

She said: "I'm very pleased the The Arbor made such an impact on the jury and that it was received so openly at Tribeca.

"It's a British story, told in an unusual way, with strong regional accents, so I wasn't sure how it would be received in the US."

The New York festival was set up to encourage economic and cultural revitalisation following the attacks on the World Trade Centre in 2001.

Since then, over 1,100 films from more than 80 countries have been seen by an international audience of 2.3 million.

The judges this year included Whoopi Goldberg and Fantastic Four star Jessica Alba, and they were stunned by Clio's work.

They said: "This director bends the boundaries of documentary filmmaking, beautifully crafting an innovative and detailed film."

It's the true story of playwright Andrea Dunbar, who died in 1990 at the age of 29, and her daughter Lorraine, who was 10.

We see Lorraine as she is today at 29 and now in prison for manslaughter.

Lorraine is re-introduced to her mother's plays and private letters and, as she reflects on the parallels in their lives, she begins to come to terms with her past.

Ms Barnard teaches on the university's undergraduate and postgraduate courses.

Dr Jonathan Friday, head of the University's School of Arts, said: "Clio is an extremely talented practitioner and an inspiration to our film studies students."

The Arbor can be seen in UK cinemas during October.

Diversity will dance at castle

BODY-popping Britain's Got Talent winners Diversity will head to Rochester this summer to take part in the Castle Concerts.

The 11-piece dance troupe has been confirmed as the main support for pop group The Saturdays, on Friday, July 16.

Diversity took the UK by storm last year when they won the TV talent crown, watched by nearly 20 million viewers.

Other acts on the concert series, which runs from July 14-17, include Status Quo, Will Young and the Castle Proms.

Tickets for the Diversity show are £29.50, available at the Central Theatre box office, the Brook Theatre box office and Medway Visitor Information Centre or at www.castleconcerts.co.uk.

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Killers to fight convictions for disabled man's murder

A GANG of vigilante killers jailed for kicking and punching a disabled man to death are to appeal against their convictions next month, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

JAILED: (left to right) Horlock, Service, Lees and Saunders were convicted for the death of Ted Shaxted

The four claim they never intended to murder Ted Shaxted. The 36-year-old received horrific injuries from a brutal attack in his flat, and later died in hospital.

Police tracked down the gang of four and they were eventually convicted of murder at Maidstone Crown Court in February, 2009.

The court had been told Mr Shaxted had been arrested after getting drunk while visiting his girlfriend Doreen Goode.

Her sister Karen Horlock is the mother of one of the killers. Mr Shaxted had taken Mrs Horlock's Peugeot and dog Poppy and then got into an accident.

Unhappy with the police response, the son and his gang launched the brutal assault leaving Mr Shaxted with fatal injuries in December, 2007. He died from multiple organ failure two weeks later.

Those convicted of his murder were Kelvin Horlock, 32, from Strood; Bill Saunders, 29, from Gravesend; Trevor Lees, 37, from Northfleet; and Marvin Service, 34, from Gravesend.

Horlock must serve a minimum of 16 years before getting the chance of parole, Service and Saunders 14 years, and Lees 13 years and eight months.

At the time of sentencing, Mr Shaxted's family said: "Ted died as a result of a senseless and brutal attack.

"He was a kind and loving brother and uncle and is sorely missed by all his family and friends.

"Ted was a defenceless and disabled man who suffered health problems all his life. Despite this he chose to be independent and was a popular member of the community."

The family added: "These four men have deprived Ted and us of the life he deserved. We hope that in time those responsible will understand the devastation they have caused by their actions."

And Det Chief Insp John Coull said at the time of the coviction: "This terrible murder of Ted Shaxted showed a level of brutality that I have rarely seen. Ted was a much-loved uncle and brother who was well-liked within the local community."

A spokesman at the Court of Appeal Criminal Division in London said: "Yes, these four men are appealing their conviction. The date is currently set for June 7."

It took a year to find the killers with the help of the community in Northfleet.

A member of Ted's family, who didn't want to give his name said: "We are just waiting to see what happens at the appeal."

CAN YOU HELP?

The grandson of Ivy and Herbert O'bee is trying to collate as much information and photographs, in order to progress with the family tree.

Ivy and Herbert ran the White Lion in East Farleigh from about 1956, until they passed away in 1965.

Anyone who knew Ivy and Herbert, or who may know any other "O'bee's", please email m.obee@ntlworld.com

Plaque is unveiled for George Cross heroine

TRIBUTES have been paid to the first female recipient of the George Cross for her bravery in dealing with a wartime explosion, ***writes Steve Knight***.

Corporal Daphne Pearson of the Women's Auxiliary Air Force (WAAF) rescued a British pilot from the burning wreckage of his Anson bomber at RAF Detling, near Maidstone, on May 31, 1940.

Lord Lieutenant of Kent Allan Willett unveiled a plaque at the County Showground, the site of RAF Detling, to mark the 70th anniversary of the incident, while his wife Anne laid a posy. The service, which took place on Saturday, May 15, was also attended by the son and grandson of the pilot rescued from the wreckage, who died in 1977.

Cpl Pearson was 29 when she received the George Cross from King George VI, and was the first of only 13 female recipients so far.

Her citation – printed in the London Gazette on July 19, 1940 – described how she leapt into action when the plane crashed near the WAAF quarters, at 1am.

It read: "Upon hearing the crash Cpl Pearson rushed out to it and, although the aircraft was burning and she knew there were bombs aboard, she stood on the wreckage, roused the stunned pilot and assisted him in getting clear.

"When he was on the ground about 30 yards away, a 120lb bomb went off. Cpl Pearson at once threw herself on top of the pilot to protect him from blast and splinters.

"Her prompt and courageous action undoubtedly helped to save the pilot's life."

Cpl Pearson emigrated to Australia after the war, where she died aged 89, in Melbourne, in 2000.

The pilot whose life she saved – David Bond – went on to found the international firm Bond Offshore Helicopters.

Last week Mr Willett revealed he was suffering from prostate cancer, making the memorial service one of his last before taking a temporary leave of absence to undergo treatment.

It marked the start of a day of celebration of Kent's young people from the past, present and future, which included musical performances, theatre demonstrations, fencing and martial arts.

Those who attended were also treated to a 'thank-you' tea co-hosted by Mr Willett, Kent County Council chairman Bill Hayton and Mayor of Medway David Royle.

Mr Willett said: "I have every confidence that all here today – and especially our young people – will not be found wanting as they take our great county into the future."

IN MEMORIAM: Allan and Anne Willett, David Bond's son Stephen and grandson David celebrate Cpl Pearson's bravery

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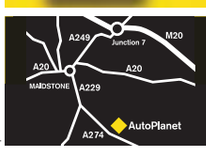

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WIN tickets to the Leeds Castle Open Air Classical Concert

FOR the 27th year the Open Air Classical Concert at Leeds Castle returns by popular demand.

The programme for the event on Saturday, July 3, which is back after a a two-year gap, includes the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by John Rigby, soloists include tenor Wynne Evans, soprano Elizabeth Watts, and baritone Richard Morrison. The evening will be narrated by award-winning actor Robert Powell.

The event begins with a rousing appearance of the marching Gurkhas, coming to a dramatic climax with a spectacular fireworks finale and cannons.

To mark the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Britain there will be a flypast by a Spitfire and Hurricane.

KOS Media has five pairs of tickets to give away. To enter the competition, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Leeds Castle Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS. The closing date is June 10, 2010

• Question: What is the model of one of the planes that will be making a flypast during the concert?

No purchase necessary. For full terms and conditions see www.kentnews.co.uk, or call 01303 817073. If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.

The event is staged by Heritage Events, for more information see www.Heritage-events.co.uk.

New police to defend our borders

Dedicated force would work on an international scale

IMMIGRATION minister Damian Green has stressed the need for a dedicated border police force to tackle international crime syndicates, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

The Ashford MP, who was appointed to the Home Office role two weeks ago, said just focusing on the county's borders was not enough.

Plans for a new force – forming part of the Serious Organised Crime Agency – were revealed this week in the Queen's Speech.

"We need to crack down on international crime to help protect our borders," Mr Green said. "The new police force would effectively combine powers that are available to the enforcement arm of the UK Border Agency. But it would be different to the agency. It would be a separate national police force."

His comments came as the Government's legislative programme was unveiled in the Queen's Speech.

In the list of Con-Lib coalition agreements was the creation of a dedicated border police force as part of a refocused Serious Organised Crime Agency. It stated the new force would "enhance national security, improve immigration controls and crack down on the trafficking of people, weapons and drugs".

Crucial

And with Kent being home to Dover, the busiest passenger port in the world; the Channel Tunnel terminal; and Dover Straits, the world's busiest shipping lane, a police force of this kind could be crucial in bringing down criminal gangs trying to infiltrate the borders with illegal goods.

The 60-strong Port of Dover Police, which is privately funded by Dover Harbour Board, monitors the harbour, dock and pier.

Mr Green said: "Being able to do operations both in the UK and outside means we can crack down on this sort of crime."

Currently, immigration controls are in place in Kent, France and Belgium, through the UK Border Agency. The organisation was launched in April, 2008, through the merger of the Border and Immigration Agency, UK Visas, and HM Revenue and Customs to create one single force; protecting borders, controlling migration and tackling smuggling.

Since its launch, 1.4 billion cigarettes and illegal drugs worth £370m have been seized.

The new border police force would focus on international organised crime, in particular guns, drugs and illegal immigrants.

Mr Green said it was too early to say how the force would work in Kent, but stressed that Dover was an important focus.

"Details are yet to be confirmed. This still has to go through Parliament, so it will be another couple of years before it is set up," he said.

Immigration has been a contentious issue between Tories and Lib Dems, where the Tories wanted a cap on economic migration by non-EU migrants. But the Lib Dems pushed for an amnesty to allow long-standing illegal immigrants the chance to earn citizenship.

It was agreed there would be an annual limit on the number of non-EU immigrants coming to the UK. The amnesty proposal was thrown out, but Prime Minister David Cameron agreed to end the detention of children.

Jailed paedophile was 'a parent's nightmare'

By JAMES REID
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A PAEDOPHILE who posed as a 15-year-old boy and tried to blackmail his young victims, has been jailed for two-and-a-half years.

Nicholas Bennett, 31, from Herbert Road, Swanley, was described by the judge as "every teenage parent's worst nightmare".

He was charged with 10 offences, including inciting sexual activity with a child, after one of his victims reported him to police in 2009.

Bennett pleaded guilty at Maidstone Crown Court and was sentenced on Monday.

The woman, who was 15-years-old at the time of the offence, contacted police about Bennett, and officers raided his home in February, 2009.

He was arrested on suspicion of possession of indecent images of children.

Bennett told officers he had been speaking with teenagers, but denied any of his internet chat was with children.

Officers believe Bennett made contact with the young girls through a teen chat website.

Police found evidence that on at least one occasion Bennett claimed to be 15, and the girls had stated they were under 16.

The young woman who originally approached police told officers details of the torment Bennett subjected her to, which included an attempt to blackmail her into carrying out further acts.

Det Con Mikaela Stevens said: "Bennett denied any wrongdoing throughout, but the evidence shows the extent of planning he would undertake to commit these crimes'

"I would like to thank the young woman who for coming forward. Her courage and co-operation with officers was vital in bringing this offender before the courts and in identifying other children he had abused and also preventing further children from coming in to contact with him."

Bennett manipulated the young woman as a child and later contacted her as an adult, threatening to post images she had sent to him as a child onto the internet if she refused to engage in further role play.

Bennett's victims were all aged 11-16, one of who was living in Sydney, Australia.

He persuaded girls to expose themselves via a web cam while capturing the messages and video with screen capture software.

Chat logs and indecent images of children were found on his computer.

In addition to his jail term, Bennett must sign the sex offenders' register for life and has been given a 10-year sex offences prevention order.

Sentencing, His Honour Judge Statman said Bennett was "every teenage parent's worst nightmare".

Bennett admitted five offences of causing/inciting pornography, four counts of making indecent images of children and one count of causing/inciting sexual activity with a child.

The images ranged from levels 1-4, with 5 being the most extreme, including sadism and bestiality. One of Bennett's videos was level 5.

Details of 19 further offences are to remain on Bennett's file.

FAKE: Nicholas Bennett posed as a 15-year-old boy on the internet, using a fake picture of a torso (left) as his profile picture

Sign up now for Kent Test place

FAMILIES of primary school children thinking of going to grammar school can register for the Kent Test.

Registration opens on Tuesday, June 1, until Friday, July 2, for children wanting to take the test in September, 2011.

To apply either log on to www.kent.gov.uk/ola to complete an online form; download a paper copy from the website; pick up a copy from primary schools; or call 01622 696565.

Children at primary schools in the county can sit the test on Tuesday, September 14, and Wednesday, September 15.

For those living outside Kent, the test is being held on Saturday, September 18.

Assessments for grammar or high school will be sent out on Monday, October 18.

Parents have until Sunday, October 31, to submit their application form.

Family fight to free ex-Army officer from Afghan jail hell

By DAVE MAIRS
dave.mairs@kosmedia.co.uk

A DAUGHTER is appealing to people across the county to join her campaign to release her father from an Afghan jail.

Lisa Luckyn-Malone's father, Bill Shaw, served his country for almost three decades and was awarded the MBE – but now faces two years in an Afghan jail after a shocking miscarriage of justice.

Bill, 52, was working for the security company G4S in October last year when he had to retrieve two armoured vehicles that had been seized by members of the National Directorate of Security (NDS), Afghanistan's domestic intelligence agency.

With an interpreter present, he paid the release fee of $20,000 to get the vehicles back from the NDS compound.

He ensured the payment was fully documented and asked for a receipt – and was to do so repeatedly in the following weeks – but none was given.

The saga worsened when Bill was on Christmas and New Year leave in the UK and another vehicle was impounded by the NDS.

This time the company, with the involvement of the British Embassy, complained to the Afghan government, Mr Shaw having returned early from leave to deal with the matter.

But this worsened matters and, on Wednesday, March 3, Bill was arrested on suspicion of bribing the NDS official.

He has been detained since then bail having been refused, and faced trial twice – on Tuesday, March 23, and Monday, April 26.

He was found guilty of bribery at the two-hour second hearing, at which he had no interpreter and no evidence or witnesses against him were produced.

Bill had to appear for both trials shackled, handcuffed and with his head shaven.

Lisa, 32, who lives in an MoD home in Whitfield, Dover, said: "He was held first of all in a detention centre, where it's so crowded he was given just a space on the floor to sleep.

"Dad's since been moved to a super-max prison, but even there he's only able shower every three or four days – and the shower's just a tin bath. He's always itching from the fleas.

"There is no duty of care from the prison officials – food and welfare is provided by G4S."

The only member of the family to have seen Bill since his arrest has been Lisa's husband, Marcus, himself a Major serving in Afghanistan with 2 Scots (RHF).

Bill's wife Liz lives in Leeds but has been staying with her daughter in Whitfield as they marshal the campaign to secure his release.

Lisa, who has two children – seven-year-old Madeleine and Caius, five, – said: "We feel guilty – the weeks go pretty quickly for us, but for Dad, living in effective isolation, the time is dragging horribly.

"He forces himself to sleep at 9pm just to be ready for another day and he only leaves his cell for two hours a day."

More than 5,000 people have already signed up to the Free Bill Shaw campaign. If you would like to join them, you can do so via the following sites:

- facebook.com – search 'Free Bill Shaw'
- facebook.com – search 'Support for Billy Shaw Ex RMP'
- twitter.com – follow @freebillshaw
- www.petition.com/WS260410/ – where you can sign the online petition

MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE: (l-r) Campaign poster, Bill Shaw with his grandchildren, and after collecting his MBE. Mr Shaw was convicted of bribing Afghan officials in a two-hour hearing

One of the most difficult aspects of the whole sorry tale has been the gradual realisation that Bill was in fact not coming home.

"The whole thing is just so ridiculous – there's no evidence," said Lisa. "The idea Dad would do anything illegal is absurd – as anyone who knows him would tell you.

"We were adamant he was coming home. At the time of the second trial we had meat for a barbecue, while the children had made a mini-cake for him – they were going to make a bigger one when he got home.

"Even G4S were shocked at the outcome. They've been brilliant and provided an attorney and been wholly supportive all the way.

"The only person more guarded was Dad. I think it was a defence mechanism, but he kept saying 'This might not happen'."

Bill served with the British Army for 28 years and was awarded the MBE for his service with the Royal Military Police in Iraq, Northern Ireland and Cyprus.

He now faces a move to the notorious Pul-e-Charki jail, near Kabul, a site known to house many members of the Taliban. There could hardly be a more intimidating prospect for a former British Army officer.

An appeal against Bill's conviction was handed in last week, while the family's efforts have included letters to Prime Minister David Cameron and the involvement of newly-elected Dover and Deal MP Charlie Elphicke.

LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817001, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

LETTER OF THE WEEK

Dunkirk saved my unborn life

SEVENTY years ago, more than 400,000 Allied troops were trapped in Dunkirk and the future of everyone looked very bleak indeed.

The famous rescue mission Operation Dynamo was mounted in the hope of saving 45,000 troops.

In reality, 338,000 were rescued and landed safely around our coast over 11 desperate days.

My late father was one of the last to be rescued and I know he was extremely grateful to those who risked their lives to bring him and his comrades home.

I clearly remember him speaking of the truly awful battle conditions he had to endure, wading out time and time again under fire in the hope of getting on to one craft or another and the growing disappointment and desperation each time that failed, day after day.

However, in the end he did eventually make it home and that was because his rescuers, who endured exactly the same awful conditions so bravely persevered.

My father was orphaned by World War One, but thanks to Operation Dynamo he lived to help beat the Nazi terror machine in North Africa and helped to liberate Italy.

He also lived to enjoy the pleasures of a family denied himself, with a wife, his own children and grandchildren here in Thanet.

I know that if dad were still alive today he would want to remember and thank most sincerely all those who took part in Operation Dynamo, and as one of his offspring it has to be said that I and many others owe them our lives, too.

Clive Hart, Margate

OPINION: FROM JARROW TO REDSHIRTS

Bangkok may recently have been in turmoil, says **TIM GARBUTT**, but the future looks positive for Thailand – and there may be lessons for Kent to learn

AS I write, the Thai prime minister has been impeached and the previous prime minister accused of terrorism.

The Thai military have removed the Redshirt protestors in Bangkok and imposed a curfew, and the central shopping area has been burned down in protest.

It certainly makes British politics seem dull, but it is a deeply sad situation as my wife is Thai and many of our family live in Bangkok.

It's surreal to see armed troops and rioters on the TV in central Bangkok around many of the places I know and consider my home away from Kent.

Living in Kent – a county not known for its ethnic diversity – it always surprises me how interested people are in Thailand.

It may be that good food loosens the tongue as my wife owns the Surin Thai restaurant, or they have fond memories of holidays to the Serene Kingdom.

The conflict between Redshirts and Yellowshirts is puzzling at first, yet it seems not dissimilar to England at the time of the Jarrow March almost 100 years ago.

Redshirts are from the impoverished north east of the country and want social reform while the Yellowshirts are a mix of wealthy military and political elite.

The Redshirt protests that started as political rivalry with former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra and the military's choice of Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva has now spread to greater demands for deeper democracy, a fairer society and less involvement of the military in politics.

The Asian Century is coming to pass and Thailand – unlike Burma, China, Vietnam and Indonesia in particular – has managed to establish a strong democracy. Yet only now is it able to untangle the last vestiges of military involvement.

The current conflict and 85 deaths in two months will yield greater democratic consensus for what is one of the world's safest nations.

And even with the current disputes, the Thai economy holds steady with only a two per cent fall, so I would forecast tourism will likely return for the Christmas peak.

Indeed, one reason for the end of the protests – at what is the low tourism season – was the imminent monsoon rains and many Redshirts returning to their farms to prepare the crops.

Bangkok represents the urban face of a hidden Thailand that is more than 80 per cent rural.

And Kent? Well, the similarities with Thailand are noticeable. A rural and agricultural economy, small market towns, ever warmer climate, a reliance on tourism and green industries.

If Kent still relies on a post-industrial economy of road building and construction, then Thailand certainly indicates how solar energy, local markets, the food and drink sector, heritage focus, crafts and artisan industries and tourism can lead to prosperity.

Kent should be able to market its public service ethos in education, governance, policing and so on to Asia. More could be done on trade tariffs to encourage UK-Thai trade: only two per cent of Thai exports reach the EU.

Bangkok is the price paid for the pace of development, with the ancient canals filled in for congested motorways and pollution and almost no planning restrictions ensuring the lowest ratio of urban parks in the world. A price we seem to be willing to continue to pay in Kent while future generations will pick up the bill.

Certainly Asia has far more quickly embraced the real dangers of climate change while, shockingly, even broadband and wifi are far more accessible in most Thai towns than Kent.

Without social reform the Asian Century will falter – while the Redshirts' call for UN oversight perhaps heralds the first signs of a UN century of social justice, democracy and environmental protection.

Like the national symbol of the garuda bird, central Bangkok will rise phoenix-like from the current dispute within weeks. While, with climate change and the pressures on the Kent environment, there's more we should be doing here to preserve and improve our way of life.

• ***Tim Garbutt is managing director of Sincerity Agency the east Kent green and ethical advertising agency, www.sincerityagency.com.***

KOS media COMMENT

Swept along on a tide of great pride

A FEELING of pride swept the country this week as some of the original Little Ships that assisted in the evacuation of 330,000 troops from the beaches of Dunkirk relived their voyage across the English Channel, 70 years after the brave mission during World War Two.

But this time, instead of fear of the enemy, only celebrations and nostalgia filled the air.

Although most of us not would remember the extraordinary evacuation in 1940 when civilians took to their boats to help in the rescue, the moving scenes would have struck a chord with us all.

For not only did it throw light on the heroics of those involved, but it helped us all remember – and restored a little bit of hope – that no matter how bad things get, people still do great things.

No denying benefit of beautiful game

WITH the World Cup just around the corner, there's not a better time to encourage more people to get involved in the beautiful game.

Today, KOS Media launches its Fab Football Campaign 2010 aimed at increasing participation in England's national sport as well as promoting the many benefits it can bring.

Whether or not you're a fan of the big-money business of the Premier League, there can be no denying that football changes lives, communities and even entire nations for the better.

It cuts diseases, makes people fitter and improves their social lives, and is a tremendously enjoyable leisure activity, too.

England manager Fabio Capello and sports minister Hugh Robertson have already shown their support for our Fab Football campaign, so why not do the same by lacing up your boots?

In the meantime you can help shape the initiative by letting us know what areas you'd like to see us cover.

'Exodus' talk is unfounded

IN last week's edition you refer to an 'exodus' from the Lib Dems following the formation of the coalition government with the Conservatives.

You are wrong.

I see no exodus, but the very reverse – the strongest inflow of new members and supporters to the Lib Dems in the 12 years I have been involved with the party in Canterbury.

It all started with the leaders' debates, but has continued through the election, the formation of the coalition and the policy proposals for the Queen's Speech.

We have signed up more than a dozen new members since election day, with only two resignations.

I can live with an exodus like this.

Monica Eden-Green,
Membership secretary, Canterbury and Whitstable Lib Dems

Water shortage, I'll be dammed

THE water strategy for Kent needs greater thought than the stop-gap measure at Broad Oak.

Swamping our beautiful countryside smells of panic and poor planning. It is water storage that Kent needs; the rainfall is adequate, however the problem is we waste this and let the rain run off and out into the English Channel.

The Dutch, world leaders in water management, use existing geography to reclaim land stolen by the North Sea and to build water storage facilities.

Thought should be given to thinking on a larger scale.

My proposal is to reclaim the Swale; build dams at Queenborough in the east while in the west, link Nagden Marshes to Ferry Road on Sheppey. If this too ambitious, it could be tackled in stages, first, with a western dam incorporating Fowley Island.

It would be a huge project, it will have problems and it might take years to accomplish, but the new fresh water lake created will have enormous benefits for Kent.

The scheme could incorporate docking facilities on both sides of the dams, there will be many proposals and many opportunities to consider. Many of these can be fine-tuned after or as the main dams are being built.

The builders of our famous Chatham Dock Yards accomplished with manual labour and far more primitive technology a greater achievement than this proposal.

Kent needs access to a large fresh water reservoir; the Swale fits the bill without us having to lose our beautiful countryside.

Anthony Lang, Maidstone

Outgoing MP says 'thanks'

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all those who voted for me at the recent general election in the constituency of Gillingham and Rainham.

Unfortunately, there was not the same success that had followed the 1997, 2001 and 2005 elections.

However, it has been an immense honour and privilege to have served for 13 years as the Member of Parliament for my home towns.

I genuinely believe that over those years we have seen substantial and lasting improvements.

Finally, while I have thanked those who voted, may I equally thank everyone who has helped me in my job and with whom I have worked in partnership to deliver changes both big and small over the past 13 years.

Paul Clark, MP Gillingham and Rainham 1997-2010

Boris back on estuary's tail?

NOW the dust is settling after the general election let us hope that the coalition government can get to grips with the serious financial predicament this country finds itself in.

The recently announced cuts in public spending may be necessary, but not to everyone's liking.

In London, Mayor Boris Johnson now finds himself under a lot of pressure: his Tube upgrades, Olympic funding, Crossrail project and other schemes, face heavy financial cut-backs or even cancellation.

So far during his term of office he has achieved very little in the way of promised improvements to Londoners' lives and his thoughts will be turning towards re-election.

There is one glimmer of hope for him though… his proposed Thames Estuary airport.

Given the Government's promise to scrap Heathrow's third runway plans and BAA's recent climbdown on the expansion of Stansted, we can be sure this flawed project will rear its ugly head again sooner rather than later.

The Mayor has already wasted vast sums of money on a feasibility study.

Of course, it's technically possible, what isn't? Man was walking on the Moon over 40 years ago.

Mr Johnson will claim the airport to be a lasting legacy (one of today's political buzzwords), all paid for privately by an Arab consortium at no public cost.

Six runways, 24 hours a day; nearly five times the runway hours currently at Heathrow.

How eco-friendly.

It will be interesting to see which Conservative MPs hold the most sway.

Those in our part of the world – newly elected or otherwise – or the already established, (more influential?) ones to the west of London.

Bill Stevens, Faversham

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Including family announcements in partnership with the Kent registration service

To register Births, Marriages and Deaths contact the Kent registration service on 0845 824 7400

For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday on 01303 817150

BIRTHS

AUBREY-KILLEN
Amanda and Simon of Dover are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Jessica Mai Aubrey-Killen, born at 09.52am on 9th May 2010 at William Harvey Hospital Ashford, weighing 6lb 5oz. Our most beautiful and precious daughter.

BEDWELL
Sonny Arthur born on 12th May 2010 weighing 6lb 10oz, son to James and Amy.

BREE
Sandra and Alan are pleased to announce the birth of Sophie Louise, born on 20th April 2010. A much wanted sister for Georgia.

BROWNING
Harriet Jane Browning was born on the 4th May 2010 to proud parents Emma and Allen and big sister Felicity. Now two precious little girls who will bring us many many years of joy and happines.

CHOUDHURY
Zaakirah Jaiyana born on 6th May in Maidstone Hospital. Lovely sister for Juwairyyah and Safoorah. Hugs and kisses.

COLLINS-WINCH
Kevin and Lucy Collins-Winch celebrate the birth of their daughter Florence Ebony Collins-Winch on the 5th May 2010 at 4pm, weighing 7lb 8oz.

CRAVEN
Liam Michael Craven was born on the 12th May 2010 to proud parents Paul and Kirsty. We welcome our Son to the family. We will love and treasure you forever.

HALES
Ruth and Les Hales celebrate the birth of their daughter Anya Ruth on the 16th May 2010. Sister to Jude.

HEMMINGS
Oliver John Peter born on the 11th May 2010 weighing 8lbs 15oz. Son to Carol and Alan Hemmings and brother to Harriet.

KEELING
Adam and Naomi Keeling, celebrate the birth of their son Lewis Keeling on 13th April 2010. Weighing 9lb 8oz.

LEECH
Louise and Gary of St Peters are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Ellise Ivy Leech, born on 17th May 2010 at QEQM Hospital weighing 6lb 12oz. You are the miracle who we will love and treasure forever. Sister to Ruby and Kris.

O'LEARY
Sienna Isabella born on 3rd May 2010, weighing 8lb 5oz. Daughter to James and Grace in Maidstone.

RUSSELL
Mark and Lisa are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful baby daughter Lily Elisabeth who was born at 00.55 am on the 11th May 2010. Lily was born at Darent Valley Hospital and weighed 6lb 9oz.

WALLIS
Violet Sarah born on 14th May 2010, at home, weighing 6lbs 13oz. Daughter to Paul and Samantha in Maidstone.

WATSON
Neya Ruby Watson was born on the 10th May 2010 to proud parents Bryn and Shelley. A Welcomed addition to the family for brother Rueben and sister Luella-Mai.

DEATHS

ATHERTON
We regret to inform of the death on 22nd May 2010 of Dennis Allan Atherton, loving husband, father and grandfather. Adored by all, he will be much missed.

FAIERS
Ann (Grace) Faiers passed away peacefully after a long illness on 19th May 2010 aged 76 years. A loved one is not gone until they are forgotten! And to live in the hearts of those left behind is to live forever!

NEWMAN
George Lewis Newman of Marden formerly of Mereworth died peacefully on 23rd May 2010. All enquiries to Viners 01732 842485.

WOOD
J Gifford died peacefully after a short illness on Sunday 23rd May aged 99 2/3. Husband of Joyce (deceased), father of Jane and Catherine. Formerly House Master at Tonbridge School. Funeral service at Tonbridge School chapel, Thursday 3rd June, 2pm. No flowers please. Discretionary donations to St Dunstans via Abbey Funeral Services.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

Special needs pupils have been failed

Following my article last week explaining the chaos surrounding the proposed phasing out of all Special Needs Units in Kent, I have had a number of contacts with parents affected and seen responses by KCC to the article and questions I posed them.

The key responses appear as follows:

1) KCC claims not to know of children who have been turned down by units. KCC officers have told parents there is no point in applying for places as the units are not accepting new children. One parent was told this by a senior officer in a unit parents' meeting, with plenty of witnesses.
2) KCC claims that as there no children have been turned away there is no reason to publicise the change of policy to admit new entrants in pilot areas from September.
3) KCC claims there has been no change of policy with regard to admissions to units. I have a letter from KCC's chief executive, many parents are willing to go on record stating that they have been told by SEN units themselves and senior KCC Officers (as I have myself), that units in the pilot areas of Gravesham, Dartford, Swanley, Ashford and Shepway would not accept new pupils this September. The change of policy was slipped quietly on to an inner page of the KCC website earlier this month. The KCC statement is not true.
4) KCC claims there was no decision by elected members to close units. You have to look very hard but it is there in the Cabinet Paper of October 12, 2009. However, if there were no decision by elected members, then by whose authority were the units being closed down?
5) KCC states it gave a commitment that the project would not compromise the education of pupils who needed access to units during the pilot phase. How does refusing them places honour that?

I could go on. The fact remains I am still being contacted by parents who are only now discovering they have been misled by KCC.

Some have been dissuaded from applying for a statement of special education need (a long process and the key to admission to a unit) by the misinformation provided by KCC and it may be too late to begin the process.

This whole misguided process is already seeing some units withering as staff leave for more secure posts, which will have the effect of seeing the units close themselves. KCC told some parents as early as February that the policy had been reversed.

Others are still finding out, some presumably do not yet know. I finished my article, "the main victims of this chaos are of course Kent children with special education needs which are best met in units; surely those who deserve the best possible care from the Authority". They have been failed.

Peter Read,
Independent Education Adviser, Gravesham

Labour's ready for it to all go wrong

May I through your newspaper warmly congratulate Damian Collins on his election victory. He conducted a clean and friendly campaign and for that he deserves thanks.

May I also congratulate the Tory Party for swallowing its own bile and getting into coalition with its previously sworn enemy the Liberal Democrates.

Forced marriages do not often augur well for fidelity and longevity and I hesitate to predict that once the honeymoon is over divorce lawyers will begin to circle and the returning officers will once again be dusting down their black boxes.

Locally, I now look forward to Cllr Bliss taking Cllr Beaumont to his bosom and inviting her to share power at council here in Shepway. The ultimate prize. A Blissful coalition of age and beauty.

A coalition pointing in both directions at the same time on Dungeness power station on Lydd Airport, and illegal immigrants, to name just a few policies both parties disagree on.

Nothing of real substance – though that should really worry any Tory/Lib Dem love in at the Town Hall given the Lib Dems' record of betrayal, double dealing, and the ability to switch party and party candidates at the merest whiff of power or electoral defeat.

Indeed, come next year's district council elections will there be any reason for the Lib Dems to exist in Shepway? They can't honestly now oppose the Conservatives having been so taken by them nationally.

Having so abjectly surrendered their three core policies on Trident, the Euro and an amnesty for illegal immigrants, what else have they left to stand for? No Dungeness C at the very time our new MP Damian Collins is calling upon the Lib Dem Energy Secretary Chris Huhne to build it?

No extension of the runway at Lydd now the coalition is opposed to the expansion of the third runway at Heathrow and instead favours regional airports?

And no cuts in wages or jobs now the Lib Dem treasury secretary David Laws is wielding the knife like Sweeney Todd?

The good citizens of Shepway need not however trouble themselves too unduly over what the Lib Dems or indeed the Tories now stand for locally.

The Labour Party here in Shepway will be exposing what they truly stand for at every opportunity between now and next year's council elections or the collapse of this coalition of vacuous and shallow chancers more interested in their seats at the top table than their manifesto commitments to the people.

Donald Worsley,
Folkestone & Hythe Labour Party

I say balls to keeping quiet

Wow! Did I have a run-in a week ago or what? I'm queuing in a shop in Whitstable, dreaming away, when two soft balls shoot up and hit me in the face.

They'd done me no harm, they were thrown by a four-year-old girl, but due to the surprise I reacted a little louder than normal – I just said "Don't throw things at me please".

I was rebuked by a member of the child's family: "Don't have a go at her she's four."

I was possessed of a determination to stand my ground: "What's her age got to do with it, she's not a baby she knows what she's doing."

I believe I was justified in saying something. A casual act like that could have broken my glasses, and it might not have been soft balls. Was I the ogre? I don't think so. In any high street you'll see people with challenging behaviour.

I'm concious of an attidude where modern people think it's terribly chic not to say anything. I say it's time to start saying something. I'm old fashioned and I'm not sorry about it.

G Brenchley, Whitstable

Blues promised us they were green

The coalition's blueprint for a greener future contains many encouraging policies, but there are still gaping holes.

Most significantly is the failure to commit The UK to tougher climate change targets. We need to slash C02 emissions by at least 42 per cent by 2020 without offsetting to play our part in tackling global warming.

There must also be swift action to meet the election promise both parties made to introduce local carbon budgets to ensure local councils help cut UK emissions.

While in opposition the Prime Minister talked of voting blue to go green, but during the election campaign Dover and Deal MP Charlie Elphicke decided against meeting with the Deal With It Environmental Group. This was a disappointing start.

David Cameron has promised the greenest Government ever he must now focus on making this a reality.

Stuart Cox, group co-ordinator,
East Kent Friends of the Earth Group

Trains need a little reallocation

I gather from the press that Southeastern Trains has reduced the number of high-speed trains in service each weekday from 25 to 22. The Broadstairs services have been shortened from two Javelin units to one, because of lack of demand.

The trains now spare, plus one recently returned to service after a long-term defect, could be used to provide additional services for Ashford, where the trains are often full.

The current 12-coach peak-hour services could run non-stop between St Pancras and Ashford. A six-coach relief service, running immediately behind, would serve Stratford before Ashford.

Platform space could be found at Ashford by dividing the 12-coach train at Dover. Six coaches could then continue to Deal and Sandwich. The relief service would go to Ramsgate via Canterbury.

The obstacle to my suggestion is political. The peak-time train paths allocated for domestic high-speed trains are already being used. However, the new government could get spare capacity from Continental services transferred. This would provide an early benefit, generating money.

In the longer term, limited capacity means it will be unacceptable to run six coach trains out of St Pancras at peak times. This implies more high-speed trains are needed.

A small fleet of 12, or even 18, coach trains should be designed specifically for a non-stop St Pancras to Ashford shuttle, along the lines of that between Victoria and Gatwick.

Frederic Stansfield, Canterbury

Help us to record war memories

Do you have a World War Two story to tell, or do you know someone who does?

We are launching an exciting oral history project Memories of War: New Narratives and Untold Stories, and want to capture as many untold World War Two stories and personal experiences as possible.

They will be preserved and also contribute to a special Memories of War exhibition at the University of Greenwich in the autumn.

We are also looking for volunteers to help bring these stories alive, conducting and transcribing interviews. For more details email memoriesofwar@gre.ac.uk or call 0208 331 7874. You can also write to me at the University of Greenwich, Old Royal Naval College, Park Row SE10 9LS.

Dr June Balshaw, head of department,
social, political and cultural studies,
University of Greenwich

New mayoralty is a sad sham

As leader of the opposition on Medway Council, I am invited to second the vote of thanks to staff at the council's annual meeting. This year I would like to take the chance to record these thanks in writing.

It has been a busy and sometimes stressful year for staff with the threat of redundancy and an increased workload, and it is almost certainly going to get worse.

As usual, our staff have performed excellently, and they have continued to serve Medway's residents to the best of their abilities, albeit often not helped by the decisions of the Conservative administration.

The other reason that I, and the rest of the Labour Group, were not at the council meeting to move these thanks is because of the Tories' attitude to the mayoralty. For decades the mayoralty was determined under the proportional points system, and so this honour was shared.

Now, the Tories have taken it solely for themselves, and therefore we did not attend this sad sham of a ceremony.

Cllr Paul Godwin,
Leader of the Labour Group

Have you considered becoming a foster carer?

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Uni researcher ranked in top 10

A LECTURER from the University of Kent has been named as one of the world's leading researchers in information systems.

Des Laffey, from the Kent Business School, was placed ninth in a ranking recognised by the Association of Information Systems.

His papers on online gambling, comparison websites and search engines were published in the top eight information systems journals between 2007 and 2009, and he is the highest ranked author for information systems outside North America.

Mr Laffey said: "It's satisfying to have this type of international recognition and I'm delighted to know that my research is well received.

"Above all, I'm pleased that the reaction from my students has been so positive."

Football students learn child safety

SPORT students hoping to coach youngsters' football have undergone training in safeguarding children.

Nineteen teenagers at MidKent College's Maidstone campus attended the Kent Football Association-funded course, for those wanting to referee or coach children's football.

Guest tutor Geoff Stanborough said the workshop looked at why it is important for the sporting industry to take responsibility for safeguarding young people.

"The students identify best practice in community football groups and look at what child and parent behaviours might give cause for concern," he said.

"There are four million young people involved in youth football. We have a moral and legal responsibility to keep them safe."

ON THE ROAD: The bus will bring information to employers and those looking for work

Apprentice bus will tour county

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

A CONVERTED bus is to set off around the county in order to help employers and businesses access information about apprenticeships.

The tour forms part of County Hall's Kent Apprenticeships project, which looks to get more people not in education, training or employment, back into the workplace.

South East Coachworks Ltd, in Faversham, has converted a bus into a one-stop shop, with facilities including a kitchen and presentation area.

Chris Bichard, from the sales and conversions team, said the company is proud to be part of the Kent apprentice programme.

"The bus is big, but the concept is even bigger," he said.

"The stunning, modern-looking conversion for Kent County Council will be available to serve employers and offer advice and guidance to those who should engage and employ apprentices. We at South East Coachworks are proud to be part of the apprentice scheme."

The bus started touring towns and business parks this week, with a team of advisors on board.

It will also visit major events, such as the annual Kent County Show.

A spokeswoman at KCC said the idea is to engage with business owners and employers to look at taking on apprenticeships.

"There are people out there who want to become an apprentice, but employers are not always sure about how to take them on," she said.

"The bus will travel around Kent with advisors explaining how they can do this and what they can get out of apprenticeships.

"We'll be using existing staff at KCC and also staff from Connexions, who we work very closely with."

Connexions Kent and Medway provides young people aged between 13-19 confidential advice and support on all aspects of life, including work and health.

The KCC spokeswoman added: "The bus is primarily aimed at employers, but if someone who wants to start an apprenticeship needs information, they are welcome to talk to our advisors, too.

"We already do a lot of work to help people hoping to become an apprentice. We're looking to launch the bus in the next couple of weeks, when it will begin its journey."

For more information, log on to www.kentapprenticeships.com.

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Jenny Avery-Stevens, Physiotherapy Manager on 01843 235019

For job description and application form please contact:

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ADMINISTRATOR (New Post)

£13,011

To support the social work team we are seeking an additional administrator. You will be responsible for the company database and provide back up support to reception. Experienced user of MS Office applications or similar required.

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To the right candidates we can offer a range of benefits including excellent working conditions, private health care insurance, company pension scheme and access to regular supervision and professional development.

Closing date for both applications is Monday 7th June 2010
Interviews will take place w/c 14th June 2010

Heath Farm is an Equal Opportunities employer and operates a no smoking policy.

If you have the ability and qualities required and wish to join a successful and growing organisation where your skills will be appreciated, email wcameron@heathfarm.org for an application pack Tel: 01233 712030

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Tel: 01892 511595 (answerphone)

ACCOUNTS CLERK

Folkestone based office
12 months Maternity Cover

Must have experience in all aspects of Sage Line 50 Accounts Package.
20 hours per week, can be flexible.

Please send CV to the Personnel Manager
Smith-Woolley & Perry
43 Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone CT20 2RB
E-mail: helenw@swandp.co.uk

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Required for leading energy conservation company.
High earnings
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01622 673973

HGV1 Night Drivers

required
MJD GROUP
Dennis
01322 370700

St Anne's Convent, Sturry, Canterbury
requires
two day carers
and one night carer
All will be subject to CRB disclosure

please contact:
Liz Page on 01227 711 912

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It's real people we are after… people who will listen to customers, take the time to understand their needs and build a genuine rapport with them. That's what we call doing things properly for our customers as we deliver great service, selling our products to people aged 50 and over.

And if you can help us achieve that, we'll do things properly for you too. You'll get excellent training and development at every stage and your hard work will be rewarded with the chance to earn additional bonuses, incentive trips, entry to our elite Top Producers' Club and unlimited earnings potential. There are also superb benefits including private healthcare, pension scheme, social club and discounts on insurance products, holidays and flights for you and your relatives.

What's more, it means a friendly working environment – as well as all the support you need to do a terrific job.

The question is, have you got what it takes? You'll need to be target driven and able to rise to new challenges, that's for sure. If you're interested in either our Outbound or Broking roles, relevant experience would be beneficial, but not essential.

If it's time for you to enjoy the rewards you deserve please write enclosing an application form, quoting reference SVS401/KOS to Mark Mear, Group Director of Sales, c/o Human Resources Department, Saga Group Limited, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE or email: human.resources@saga.co.uk Please call 01303 774888 for an application form or download one from our website.

Closing date: 11 June 2010.

saga.co.uk

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

SAGA
Saga people do things properly

We are looking for an exceptional sales person for a field sales position in the Ashford area
Only hard working, tenacious and motivated professionals need apply

Ideally from a sales background you will understand the importance of balancing good customer service with achieving targets. Media experience is not essential as training will be given.

KOS Media is one of the fastest growing independent multi media companies serving the Kent county. We publish 14 weekly newspapers including the flagship Kent on Sunday together with seasonal /annual magazines and 20 online news sites.

We offer a good basic salary, performance and target related bonus and 5 weeks holiday.

KOS media
Award Winning Company

So if you think you have what it takes to join our sales team send your CV to **ynez.coton@kosmedia.co.uk**

Jobs for Kent continues on page 65...

Assistant Manager

Required For Residential Care Home

In Folkestone

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person.
Must have minimum NVQ Level 3 qualification, and experience in caring for the elderly is essential.

Please call Miss Julia Carter (Home Manager) on 01303 254019

Subject to satisfactory CRB Check

The leading book producer requires experienced Staff for 2 positions:

Customer Service Executive & Customer Service/Inventory Executive

Successful candidates should have relevant customer service experience in a busy demanding environment. Technical knowledge from within the print or paper industry would be desirable.

Send Cv's to: **Lisa Faratro, CPI Mackays, Badger Road, Lordswood, Chatham, Kent ME5 8TD** by Friday 11th June

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VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Dover Counselling Centre, a local charity, is looking for volunteers who can help our busy, but friendly admin team, for general admin tasks, fundraising and outreach support. Some previous experience of admin required. Regular hours to suit. Confidentiality essential. Expenses reimbursed.

Contact: Deborah Gibbons: 01304 204123 or visit our website; www.dovercc.org.uk

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Licenced Security Guard

required for 5 star holiday Park.
Immediate start. Seasonal position.
Good rate of pay.
Accommodation available if required.
Polite and presentable manner.
Please send CV to Jane Stacey,
The Foxhunter Park, Monkton, Kent CT12 4JG
jane@thefoxhunterpark.co.uk

PANEL BEATER

A busy repair centre in Sandwich requires a fully qualified Panel Beater.

The successful applicant must provide a high standard of work in addition to being capable of working on their own initiative. A minimum of three years jig experience is required and accreditation to PAS125 would be advantageous.
Good rate of pay. Immediate start.

Email CV to jobs@totalmotorcare.co.uk or telephone 01304 620999

MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Lecturer/Course Leader in Art and Design
Ref: P0413

Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum
(dependent on qualifications and experience)
Maidstone

This compact, high achieving Art and Design department requires a leader who is inspirational and multi-skilled, able to teach traditional painting, sculpture, fashion and textiles, photography and graphic design as well as be proficient with computer based design processes. They should be motivational with both staff and students, able to guide the team forward into the new BTEC Diplomas, liaise constructively with higher management and pursue local contacts to ensure the courses develop and maintain a vocational link. The successful candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Part time hours also available, please state clearly on your application your preference.

Lecturer in Public Services
Ref: P0457

Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 per annum
(dependent on qualifications and experience)
Maidstone

We are looking for an excellent individual to participate in the delivery of Public Services programmes throughout the College. The successful candidate will teach on a range of BTEC / NCFE, and School Links programmes and have a background in Public Services. This post will also involve working with students in sports, expeditions and off-site visits to various Public Services areas.

Lecturer in Health and Social Care
Ref: P0323

Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 pro rata
(dependent on qualifications and experience)
18.5 hours per week
Maidstone

We are looking for a passionate candidate to be involved in the delivery of edexcel Healthcare programmes. The successful candidate will have proven knowledge and experience within Healthcare environments and hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Functional Skills
Ref: P0385

Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 per annum
(dependent on qualifications and experience)
Maidstone

The College is looking to recruit an outstanding individual to participate in the delivery of Functional Skills programmes across the College. The role will involve embedding Functional Skills within learners' programmes of study and ensuring that learners develop and achieve the skills they need to progress. The successful candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Child Care
Ref: P0070

Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 pro rata
(dependent on qualifications and experience)
Fixed Term Maternity Cover
Medway 18.5 hours per week

We are looking for a knowledgeable and experienced candidate to deliver CACHE Child Care programmes at various levels. The successful candidate will have the ability to motivate students and be flexible and adaptable in their teaching methods. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

Departmental Administrator
Ref: M0171

Salary: £15,453 - £17,243 per annum
Fixed Term Maternity Cover
Medway

We are looking to recruit an Administrator/Secretary with excellent administration and organisational skills to join one of the largest Faculties within the College, Services to People. The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate knowledge of office procedures and ability to use MS office packages.

Technician in Hair and Beauty
Ref: M0296

Salary: £15,453 - £17,243 per annum
Fixed Term Maternity Cover
Maidstone

We are looking for an organised candidate to assist the smooth running of the Hair and Beauty department. Responsibilities will include providing technical support to staff and students and setting-up the classrooms as required. Experience in the industry would be advantageous.

Closing date: Wednesday 16 June 2010

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

Action for Business College · Investors in Diversity · Positive About Disabled People · RBLI · Investor in People

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The Hollies Care Home invites candidates to apply for the post of:

ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR

Should be able to communicate well and arrange activities, games, reminiscence and outings for elders with dementia.
20 hours a week @ £7 p/h (negotiable.)

Contact: John 01892 535346 between 9am-5pm on weekdays

SALES EXECUTIVE

Sevenoaks Peugeot

Required to join a strong team at this successful branch.
The successful applicant will have

- experience of a similar role in the industry or a proven track record in sales
- Will demonstrate the ability to delivery both profitability and a first class customer service
- Have excellent interpersonal skills and a positive approach

Please telephone Sue Byrom on 01732 740740

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We are a large progressive family run business with over 100 years experience in the home collected credit industry.

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Experienced agents currently working in home collected credit, with the ability to build their own rounds. We offer the very best rates of pay, up to twice the amount that our competitors pay.
For an Informal **Confidential** chat please contact

Craig Bradshaw
Southern General Manager
Mobile: 07701 099837
Office: 01708 804923

Terra BLU

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REQUIRED FOR EXPANDING CARE AGENCY!

FULL-TIME, EVENINGS AND WEEK-END SHIFTS AVAILABLE IN TONBRIDGE & TUNBRIDGE WELLS

- Self Employed basis only
- £8.25 to £10.00 per hour
- You need to be happy taking responsibility and working with older people on your own
- Must have own car and phone
- Uniform provided
- Full Training programme available

Experience preferred but not essential.
All applicants subject to Enhanced CRB Check
CALL ELAINE/JULIA ON
01892 529429 FOR AN INTERVIEW
www.terrablu.co.uk
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...Jobs for Kent continued from page 32

Turner Contemporary

Visitor Services Manager £34k
Press & Events Officer £25k
Marketing Officer £25k

Turner Contemporary, Margate, is seeking ambitious, creative and highly motivated individuals to join the team.

Designed by David Chipperfield Architects, the Gallery will open in spring 2011.

You will be joining us at a key stage in our development as we prepare to welcome visitors next year.

To find out more about Turner Contemporary and to apply for any of the above roles, go to: **www.turnercontemporary.org**

Closing date for applications: **Fri 18 June 2010**
Interviews week commencing **28 June 2010**

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Teachers Needed
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Even if you can only spare one day a week we would love to hear from you.

To find out more information and to register with us, please call us free on:
0800 731 6871
or email
enquiry.ers@capita.co.uk

CAPITA EDUCATION RESOURCING (Agy)

Committed to equal opportunities

Sackville School

Headmaster: Peter Lane BSc

Tonbridge Road
Hildenborough
Kent TN11 9HN

T: 01732 838888
F: 01732 836404
E: office @sackvilleschool.com
W: sackvilleschool.com

We are an Independent Secondary School looking to recruit the following teacher for Sept 2010 or soon after.

Psychology Teacher

Part-time flexible - 4 hours

To teach A-level classes, an ability to teach another subject would be welcomed, although not essential.

Closing date for applications: 18th June at midday

Interviews: Tuesday 25th June

Please contact for an application pack 01732 836400 or email susan.watkins@sackvilleschool.com

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Recruiting Now!

Independent Nursery in Riverhead, Sevenoaks

Squiggles

We are a family run Nursery with a friendly team; we pride ourselves on our calm, clean, modern and happy environment. You will be able to join us at an important time in our development. We welcome and value your views and ideas and are committed to ongoing training and career development. We want you to grow as we grow!

We are recruiting for the following positions;

- **Nursery Manager – new position**
- **Room Leader for baby room**
- **Level 3 Qualified Nursery Nurses**
- **Holiday Cover/Bank Staff**
- **Part time hours/job share available**

Benefits include;

- Competitive salary
- Health cash plan
- Subsidised childcare
- Stakeholder pension
- Ongoing training
- Generous holiday allowance

For further information please visit our website or contact **Jackie** or **Siobhan** on **01732 461146**
www.squiggleschildcare.co.uk

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

THE NEW SCHOOL AT WEST HEATH SEVENOAKS

"Rebuilding lives through education"

Principal & Chief Executive: Mrs Christina Wells (BA Hons.)

The New School at West Heath works towards helping students develop life skills and enjoy social activities. As a team we share a real desire to set a new, even higher standard of care in education and you can help us achieve this goal. The School has approval status from the DfCS and has an excellent rapport with both parents and the Local Authorities.

VICE PRINCIPAL, BOARDING AND CARE

Required from Autumn 2010

The Vice Principal will be responsible for developing and managing a comprehensive and flexible range of services to meet the needs of our boarding students whilst ensuring the school operates in an efficient and effective manner.

Contact Lynne McGrath for an application form and job description.
Email: personnel@westheathschool.com Tel: 01732 460553 ext 294

Closing date for applications 11th June 2010
Interviews week commencing 14th June 2010

The successful applicants will be subject to a CRB check and Vetting & Barring.

The New School at West Heath is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

THE SPENCER WING

The Spencer Wing is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site. We also have a 5 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in a vacancy for the following staff:

Dual Trained Nurse (Margate) - 20 hrs per week
(Paediatric/Adult trained)

Pre-Assessment Nurse - 22.5 hrs (Margate)

Closing date for applications – 16 June 2010

To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact Vicky Smith or Mary Guarnieri - 01843 234555 Ext: 62207 for the Dual Trained Nurse Position or Deborah Wilson-Webb (Pre-Assessment Sister) on 01843 234555 Ext: 63917

For job description and application form please contact:
Jo Edwards
East Kent Medical Services Ltd
The Spencer Wing, QEQM Hospital, Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4BG
Telephone: 01843 234556
Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com

The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer

This positions is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check

QMS ISO 9001 REGISTERED FIRM

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Career opportunities at MidKent College

Human Resources Advisor Full or Part-time Opportunity

Salary: £30,002 - £37,179

MidKent College has existed for over 80 years and we pride ourselves on our responsiveness to employers and ability to meet the needs of our students. In July 2009 we successfully opened our new £86m campus for the Medway towns and are due to commence modernisation work at out Maidstone campus.

As part of our continued development we are looking to recruit a Human Resources Advisor who will help deliver our operational commitment, primarily at our Maidstone campus.

You will provide comprehensive Human Resources (HR) advice and guidance to the Campus Senior Leadership Team, managers and staff and actively participate in development of employment policies. In addition, you will lead on staff consultation processes, people planning, change management processes, recruitment and absence management in your designated departments. As an HR generalist you will engage with our stakeholders to enhance and support the delivery of outstanding learning opportunities at the College.

This role will involve working closely with the Head of HR and is a rare and exciting opportunity to help develop a fit for purpose HR support service.

The ideal candidate for this role will be CIPD qualified and have experience of working in unionised environments. The person will have a track record delivering professional HR advice and support and be able to demonstrate that they have the knowledge and experience to improve the performance of the HR function.

For an informal discussion please contact Ian Johnston, Head of Human Resources on 01634 383601.
Please specify on your application whether you are interested in a full or part-time position.

Benefits include: Benenden Healthcare, Pension, Generous Annual Leave, Flexible working, Childcare Vouchers

CLOSING DATE: *11 JUNE 2010* INTERVIEW DATE: *17 JUNE 2010*

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from **www.midkent.ac.uk**. Alternatively, please e-mail **job.applications@midkent.ac.uk**. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the **HR department** on **01634 383102** (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

Gravesend Grammar School for Girls
A Specialist Science and Language College

Pelham Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 0JE
Telephone: 01474 352896 Fax: 01474 331195 Website:www.ggsg.org.uk
email: enquiries@ggsg.org.uk

Science

Part-Time Teacher of PE (Maternity Cover 0.4 FTE)

Required from Sept 2010
Main Professional Scale

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and committed PE Teacher to cover maternity leave from Sept 2010 to June 2011.

The ideal candidate will be able to teach KS3 and KS4 core PE. Willingness to contribute to extra-curricular activities would be an advantage. The role is part time maternity cover for 2 days a week or equivalent.

Part-Time Teacher of Music (Maternity Cover 0.6 FTE)

Required from Sept 2010
Main Professional Scale

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and committed Music Teacher to cover maternity leave from Sept 2010 to June 2011.

The ideal candidate will be able to teach music up to A level. Willingness to contribute to extra-curricular activities would be an advantage. The role is part time maternity cover for 3 days a week or equivalent.

The School has a high profile for achievement locally and nationally and prides itself on a strong record of internal professional development including a full induction in the Summer term.

The School is also an Investor in People and an Investor in Careers.

We have been a Specialist Science College since September 2004 and a Specialist Language College since April 2009.

Application forms and further details are available from the School Office. Completed forms should be returned by post, fax or email for the attention of Mrs E Wilson, Headteacher no later than Wednesday 9 June 2010

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

History Teacher

Part time flexible hours (7-13hours)

Required for September 2010 or soon after

Sackville School

Headmaster: Peter Lane BSc

Tonbridge Road
Hildenborough
Kent TN11 9HN

T: 01732 838888
F: 01732 836404
E: office @sackvilleschool.com
W: sackvilleschool.com

We are an Independent Secondary School and are looking to recruit a professional, resourceful and enthusiastic graduate Historian to teach across the age range. An ability to teach another subject would be welcomed, although not essential.

Closing date for applications: 18th June at midday

Interviews: Tuesday 25th June

Please contact for an application pack 01732 836400 or email susan.watkins@sackvilleschool.com

To advertise in this section

01303 817040

Founded 1580

Saint George's

Church of England School
Humanities College

Meadow Road, Gravesend
Kent DA11 7LS
Tel: 01474 533082
Fax: 01474 561536
HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate BDAKC

Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Humanities College
11-18, Mixed, Comprehensive School

FAMILY LIAISON OFFICER

FIXED TERM 12 MONTH CONTRACT
(Full time post – 37 hours per week, Term Time Only)
Kent Scheme Band 6 £18,471 to £20,262
(approx £15,586 to £17,098)

We are seeking to appoint a Family Liaison Officer to drive attendance and to work proactively to reduce persistent absence. We are seeking to appoint a person who is enthusiastic, tenacious and self motivated to work with young people and their families who are experiencing difficulties in maintaining a minimum attendance of 94%.

Saint George's C of E School is an over-subscribed school. This post comes at an exciting time for the school as we are preparing for new buildings under Wave 4 of BSF.

Saint George's C of E School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

All appointments are subject to List 99 and enhanced CRB checks.

Contact us to request further details and an application form.

Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk or visit our website www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

Closing Date: 14 June 2010

MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following area:

Advanced Skills Lecturer in Civil Engineering Ref: P0333

Salary: £40,512 per annum
Medway

We are looking to recruit an outstanding individual to teach and participate in leading the development of Civil Engineering programmes across the Faculty of Design and Construction. The successful candidates will possess qualities of reliability, have good communication skills and hold a Degree or higher qualification in Civil Engineering or a related specialism. Previous industry experience is essential. The ideal candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Closing date: Wednesday 2 June 2010

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

Abbey Court School

"WE GROW PEOPLE"

Abbey Court School provides a stimulating, challenging and safe learning environment where pupils and staff, efforts, work and achievement are celebrated.

We are currently looking for a

Temporary Teacher

for pupils with severe and profound learning difficulties

Starting
1st September until 31st December 2010
(fixed term contract)
MPS + 2 SEN Points

The school is located in pleasant surroundings and we have educational resources of enviable proportions.

This post would suit newly qualified teachers or those wishing to gain further experience of SEN.

Comprehensive induction and training will be provided.

Telephone enquiries and informal visits to the school welcomed.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.

Closing Date: 11th June 2010

For further details and a job description, please contact
Linda Taylor, Business Manager
Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road
Strood, Rochester, Kent ME2 3SP
(Tel: 01634 338236)

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Accountancy

ACCOUNTS CLERK
Folkestone
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Smith-Woolley & Perry
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email helenw@swandp.co.uk

Administration, Secretarial, PA

Administrator and PA to Doctor
Canterbury
Salary: TBC
Closing Date: 31/05/10
Quoting Job Ref: ISC1
Tel: 01227 789977
Email admin@idealspinecentre.co.uk

Receptionist / Customer Service
Canterbury
Salary: negotiable
Closing Date: 31/05/10
To apply/more information:
Practice Manager
Wellness Practice
Quoting Job Ref: cust 001
Tel: 01227 789977
Email admin
@idealspinecentre.co.uk

ADMINISTRATOR
Ashford
Salary: £13,011
Closing Date: Monday 7th June 2010
To apply/more information:
Heath Farm Family Services
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 712030
Email wcameron
@heathfarm.org

OFFICE ASSISTANT
Tunbridge Wells
Salary: £11,000
To apply/more information:
Drake & Fletcher
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 559915
Email mail@drakes.biz

Catering, Hospitality

KITCHEN ASSISTANT
Broadstairs
Salary: £8,983 per annum
Closing Date: 12 noon Friday 18th June 2010
To apply/more information:
Bradstow School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 608727
Email personnel
@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

Cook
Broadstairs
Salary: £12,155 - £13,184
Closing Date: 12 noon, Fri 18th June 2010
To apply/more information:
Personnel
Bradstow School
Quoting Job Ref: Cook
Tel: 01843 608727
Email personnel
@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

Part Time Team Members
Maidstone
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
KFC
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email staff@
castlebarn.myzen.co.uk

CHEF D'PARTIE
Tunbridge Wells
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Beacon (The)
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 524252
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Kitchen Assistant
Canterbury
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Littlebourne House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 721527
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

Child Care

Nursery Manager
Sevenoaks
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Squiggles Child Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 461146
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

Room Leader for baby room
Sevenoaks
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Squiggles Child Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 461146
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

Level 3 Qualified Nursery Nurses
Sevenoaks
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Squiggles Child Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 461146
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

Holiday Cover/Bank Staff
Sevenoaks
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Squiggles Child Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 461146
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

CHILDRENS CLUB LEADERS
Dover
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Live Business Grosvenor Productions
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email jobs
@livebusiness.co.uk

Construction, Architecture, Surveyors

Plasterer
Hythe
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Charlier Construction
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 268211
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

Customer Service, Call Centre

Customer Service Executive
Chatham
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Friday 11th June
To apply/more information:
Mackays of Chatham
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

Customer Service/Inventory Executive
Chatham
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Friday 11th June
To apply/more information:
Mackays of Chatham
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

Education, Teacher, School

Skills and Employability Coaches
Kent
Salary: £16k – £22k pro rata
Closing Date: 7th June
To apply/more information:
Just One Step Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07969 463 809
Email julie@justonestep.co,uk

Academic Coach for English
Dartford
Salary: £14,170 to £15,738 p.a.
Closing Date: Friday, 4 June 2010
To apply/more information:
Northfleet School for Girls
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0844 477 2525
Email personnel
@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

Part-Time Teacher of PE
Gravesend
Salary: See below
Closing Date: Wednesday 9 June 2010
To apply/more information:
Gravesend Grammar School for Girl
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 352896
Email enquiries@ggsg.org.uk

Part-Time Teacher of Music
Gravesend
Salary: See below
Closing Date: Wednesday 9 June 2010
To apply/more information:
Gravesend Grammar School for Girl
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 352896
Email enquiries@ggsg.org.uk

Advanced Skills Lecturer in Civil Engineering
Medway
Salary: £40,512 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 2 June 2010
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 383102
Email job.applications
@midkent.ac.uk

History Teacher
Tonbridge
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 18th June at midday
To apply/more information:
Sackville School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 836400
Email susan.watkins
@sackvilleschool.com

Psychology Teacher
Tonbridge
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 18th June at midday
To apply/more information:
Sackville School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 836400
Email susan.watkins
@sackvilleschool.com

FAMILY LIAISON OFFICER
Gravesend
Salary: £18,471 to £20,262 pro rata
Closing Date: 14 June 2010
Closing Date: 14 June 2010
To apply/more information:
St George's CoE School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email dhariwalj
@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

VICE PRINCIPAL, BOARDING AND CARE
Sevenoaks
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 11th June 2010
To apply/more information:
New School at West Heath (The)
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 460553 ext 294
Email personnel@
westheathschool.com

Temporary Teacher
Medway
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 11th June 2010
To apply/more information:
Abbey Court School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 338236
Email tally036@medway.org.uk

Lecturer/Course Leader in Art and Design
Maidstone
Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 16 June 2010
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0413
Tel: 01634 383102
Email job.applications
@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Public Services
Maidstone
Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 16 June 2010
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0457
Tel: 01634 383102
Email job.applications
@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Health and Social Care
Maidstone
Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 pro rata
Closing Date: Wednesday 16 June 2010
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0323
Tel: 01634 383102
Email job.applications
@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Functional Skills
Maidstone
Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 16 June 2010
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0385
Tel: 01634 383102
Email job.applications
@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Child Care
Medway
Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 pro rata
Closing Date: Wednesday 16 June 2010
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0070
Tel: 01634 383102
Email job.applications
@midkent.ac.uk

Departmental Administrator
Medway
Salary: £15,453 - £17,243 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 16 June 2010
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: M0171
Tel: 01634 383102
Email job.applications
@midkent.ac.uk

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

Engineering Apprentices
Medway
Salary: TBA

To apply/more information:
IPS International Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email janiceclarke@ips-international.com

Temporary Packaging Operator
Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £7.50 Per Hour
To apply/more information:
Rachel Mee
CBS Butler
Quoting Job Ref: RME1069203
Tel: 01737822000
Email rmee@cbsbutler.com

Health & Safety, Security, Defense

Jobs by Email

Be the first to receive the latest Kent Jobs

JobsforKent.co.uk

Quality Assurance Assessor
Tunbridge Wells
Salary: £9.09/hr
To apply/more information:
Crossways Community
Quoting Job Ref: QA
Tel: 01892 540843
Email jobs@
crosswayscommunity.org.uk

Licenced Security Guard
Thanet
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Fox Hunter Park
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email jane@thefoxhunterpark.co.uk

HR, Recruitment

Human Resources Advisor
Medway
Salary: £30,002 - £37,179
Closing Date: 11 JUNE 2010
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 383601
Email job.applications
@midkent.ac.uk.

Insurance, Banking, Finance

Experienced Collection Agents
Kent
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Short Term Finance
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01708 804923
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

Legal

Team Managers
Bromley
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Taylor Green
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 313 7863
Email Rebecca@taylor-green.co.uk

Paralegals
Bromley
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Taylor Green
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 313 7863
Email Rebecca@taylor-green.co.uk

Legal Executives
Bromley
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Taylor Green
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 313 7863
Email Rebecca@taylor-green.co.uk

Solicitors
Bromley
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Taylor Green
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 313 7863
Email Rebecca@taylor-green.co.uk

First Response Unit Trainee Paralegals
Bromley
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Taylor Green
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 313 7863
Email Rebecca@taylor-green.co.uk

Cost Draftsman – all levels
Bromley
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Taylor Green
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 313 7863
Email Rebecca@taylor-green.co.uk

Web Developers
Bromley
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Taylor Green
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 313 7863
Email Rebecca@taylor-green.co.uk

Leisure, Tourism, Travel

Manager and Promoter
Canterbury
Salary: TBA
To apply/mre information:
Kent Bars
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email Kent.bars@googlemail.com

Visitor Services Manager
Margate
Salary: £34k
Closing Date: Fri 18 June 2010
To apply/more information:
Turner Contemporary
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

Press and Events Officer
Margate
Salary: £25k
Closing Date: Fri 18 June 2010
To apply/more information:
Turner Contemporary
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

Technician in Hair and Beauty
Maidstone
Salary: £15,453 - £17,243 per annum
Closing Date: Wednesday 16 June 2010
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: M0296
Tel: 01634 383102
Email job.applications
@midkent.ac.uk

Marketing, Advertising

Marketing Officer
Margate
Salary: £25k
Closing Date: Fri 18 June 2010
To apply/more information:
Turner Contemporary
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

Motor Trade, Driver

Experienced Sales Executive
Maidstone
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Whitehouse Maidstone
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email mark.wood
@whitehousegroup.co.uk

Sunday Receptionist
Maidstone
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Whitehouse Maidstone
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email mark.wood
@whitehousegroup.co.uk

SALES ADMINISTRATOR
Sevenoaks
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Caffyns Peugeot
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 740740
Email sue.byrom@caffyns.co.uk

Drivers and Child Supervisors
Tonbridge
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
GMS Travel Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 355866
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

Weekend Taxi Drivers
Tonbridge
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
GMS Travel Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 355866
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

HGV1 Night Drivers
Swanscombe
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
MJD Group
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01322 370700
Email dennis@mjdgroupltd.com

PANEL BEATER
Sandwich
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Total Motor Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 620999
Email jobs@
totalmotorcare.co.uk

Not for profit, Charities

Support Workers - Swale District
Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £5.33 - £8.49 per hour
Closing Date: 11/06/10
To apply/more information:
Lynda Salisbury
East Kent Mencap
Quoting Job Ref: CSW0004
Tel: 01843-224482
Email Lynda.Salisbury
@eastkentmencap.co.uk

Support Workers - Swale District
Sittingbourne
Salary: £5.33 - £8.49 per hour
Closing Date: 11/06/10
To apply/more information:
Lynda Salisbury
East Kent Mencap
Quoting Job Ref: CSW0004
Tel: 01843-224482
Email Lynda.Salisbury
@eastkentmencap.co.uk

Support Workers - Swale District
Faversham
Salary: £5.33 - £8.49
Closing Date: 11/06/10
To apply/more information:
Lynda Salisbury
East Kent Mencap
Quoting Job Ref: CSW0004
Tel: 01843-224482
Email Lynda.Salisbury
@eastkentmencap.co.uk

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Massage Therapist
Canterbury
Salary: 8 - 22 k per annum
Closing Date: 31/05/10
To apply/more information:
Practice Manager
Wellness Practice
Quoting Job Ref: masthe 001
Tel: 01227 789977
Email admin@
idealspinecentre.co.uk

Marketing, Sales and Communication
Canterbury
Salary: 12,500-26,500 depending on skils
Closing Date: 31/05/10
To apply/more information:
Dr. Tracy Harley
Wellness Practice
Quoting Job Ref: 2010-02
Tel: 01227 789977
Email drtracyharley
@googlemail.com

COMMUNITY CARERS
Canterbury
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Meridian Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 712300
Email MeridianCbury@aol.com

Assistant Manager
Folkestone
Salary: TBA
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 254019
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

Career in Care
Canterbury
Salary: TBA
To find out more call 01227 265899 or visit www.allseasons.org.uk
To apply/more information:
Enterprising Opportunities
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 265899
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

Experienced Part Time Dental Receptionist/Nurse
Maidstone
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
IQ Dental & Implant Centre
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 522255
Email info@iqdental.co.uk

Domestic Staff
Canterbury
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Littlebourne House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 721527
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

TEAM MANAGER
Ashford
Salary: £38,000 - £45,000
Closing Date: Monday 7th June 2010
To apply/more information:
Heath Farm Family Services
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 712030
Email wcameron
@heathfarm.org

Care Workers
Ashford
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
One 2 One
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 610542
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

Relief Care Worker/Escort
Dartford
Salary: £6.61 per hour
To apply/more information:
Alzheimers & Dementia Support
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email adminadss
@btconnect.com

ASSISTANT MANAGER
Medway
Salary: £19,875
To apply/more information:
ACH Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 502 8849
Email louanne.newman
@achuk.com

SUPPORT WORKERS
Medway
Salary: £13,250
To apply/more information:
ACH Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 502 8849
Email louanne.newman
@achuk.com

Day carers
Canterbury
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
St Anne's Convent
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 711 912
Email applications@
jobsforkent.co.uk

Night Carer
Canterbury
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
St Anne's Convent
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 711 912
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKERS
Tonbridge
Salary: £8.25 to £10.00 per hour
To apply/more information:
TerraBlu Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 529429
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

Volunteers Wanted
Dover
Salary: Expenses reimbursed
V**To apply/more information:**
Dover Counselling Centre
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 204123
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

Activities Coordinator
Tunbridge Wells
Salary: TBA
The Hollies Care Home are currently recruiting for: Activities Coordinator Should be able to communicate well and arrange activities, games, reminiscence and outings for elders with dementia. Pay rate £7 p/h negotiable. Contact: John 01892 535346 between 9 am – 5 pm on weekdays.
To apply/more information:
Regal Care Homes
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 535346
Email mourad.cader
@regalcarehomes.com

Print, Packaging, Distribution

Print Finisher/ collator operator
Dartford
Salary: £14k - £16k
Closing Date: 30/05/10
Experienced collator operator required for North Kent Divider manufacturer. Experienced Setmaster operator's only should apply. Inthe first instance applicants should apply in writing to Unit 9 Optima Park, Thames Road, Dartford, DA1 4QX.
To apply/more information:
BDS Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01322 524673
Email paul@bds4tabs.com

No 1 all-rounder Night Print Finisher
Tunbridge Wells
Salary: £28,800
Fox Print Services are one of the South East's leading commercial printing companies working for many of the UK's major brands in both B2B and B2C – Healthcare, Telecoms, Financial, and Publishing. The role We are currently seeking an experienced, print finisher with stitching, folding, and guillotine experience. Knowledge of Heidelberg cylinder an advantage. To apply please email your CV to Rebecca Oldroyd
Rebecca.oldroyd@foxprintservices.co.uk or post it to Fox Print Services LLP Unit 2c Wyvern House Longfield Road Tunbridge Wells TN2 3EY Fox Print Services are an equal opportunities employer
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Quoting Job Ref: NPF-001
Email
Rebecca.oldroyd@foxprintservices.co.uk

Public Sector, Social Services

Community Cohesion Officer
Sheerness
Salary: £21,659 to £28,805
Closing Date: 7th June 2010
Community Cohesion Officer Sheerness Salary - £21,659 to £28,805 37 hours p.w. The Borough of Swale is a diverse area with a fast growing population providing both opportunities and challenges to its communities. Sheerness and the Isle of Sheppey in particular are experiencing significant changes and to help ensure that Sheerness has a strong, active and engaged community, a Community Cohesion Officer is required for Sheerness. We are seeking a creative and self-motivated individual to work sensitively with both the local communities and agencies to deliver a programme of projects and activities to address local issues and needs and encourage participation. You will have proven experience of working in a community development setting with a range of different communities e.g. age ranges, faiths and races. The successful post holder will join Swale Borough Council's Community Team but will be based in Sheerness. This is a fixed term post until 31 March 2011. Secondment or job-share would be considered. To discuss the position please contact Kirsty Gaunt, Community Development Officer on 01795 417457 kirstygaunt@swale.gov.uk
Closing Date: 7th June 2010
Interviews: w/c 14th June 2010
To apply/more information:
Swale Borough Council
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 417457
Email kirstygaunt@swale.gov.uk

Retail, Wholesale, Sale

Salesperson
Tunbridge Wells
Salary: OTE £35k
Salesperson – Tunbridge Wells • OTE £35k • There's no limit to what you can earn • Company Pension Scheme • Life Assurance • Savings Bonus Plan Join the DFS sales team and you'll get the best of both worlds: great pay and fantastic job satisfaction. If you get a buzz out of talking to customers and helping them to choose the perfect sofa, we want to hear from you. If you've got sales experience then great, if not, we'll give you the best training in the business and every opportunity to build a long and satisfying career, where there is no limit to what you can achieve or earn. If you want to take home more than great pay, call us now on 01302 573333, quoting ref: 68/05/1/10 or apply online at www.dfs.co.uk
To apply/more information:
DFS
Quoting Job Ref: 68/05/1/10
Tel: 01302 573333
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

SALES PERSON
Dover
Salary: TBA
Valley Windows Is looking for a FULL-TIME SALES PERSON For our busy trade counter with a minimum of 5 years' experience within the window and door industry. Must be numerate and computer literate and also have a clean, full UK Driving Licence. In the first instance, please send a CV and covering letter to: FAO: Miss C Cottrell, Valley Windows UPvc Ltd 1-4 Poulton Close, Coombe Valley Business Park, Dover, Kent. CT17 OHL
To apply/more information:
Valley Windows
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications
@jobsforkent.co.uk

Canvassing Manager
Maidstone
Salary: TBA
Canvassing Manager Required for leading energy conservation company High earnings Call Alex 01622 673973
To apply/more information:
Homewarm Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 673973
Email ross@homewarm.co.uk

GENERAL INSURANCE AND OUTBOUND SALES
Folkestone
Salary: OTE £16k - £18k+
OPPORTUNITIES IN GENERAL INSURANCE, OUTBOUND SALES AND BROKING GENERAL INSURANCE AND OUTBOUND SALES • Basic salary of £10,856 - £13,000 • OTE £16k - £18k+ (basic salary and uncapped commission) BROKING • Basic salary of £14,000 + uncapped commission Excellent benefits packages | Folkestone and Thanet It's real people we are after people who will listen to customers, take the time to understand their needs and build a genuine rapport with them. That's what we call doing things properly for our customers as we deliver great service, selling our products to people aged 50 and over. And if you can help us achieve that, we'll do things properly for you too. You'll get excellent training and development at every stage and your hard work will be rewarded with the chance to earn additional bonuses, incentive trips, entry to our elite Top Producers' Club and unlimited earnings potential. There are also superb benefits including private healthcare, pension scheme, social club and discounts on insurance products, holidays and flights for you and your relatives. What's more, it means a friendly working environment – as well as all the support you need to do a terrific job. The question is, have you got what it takes?
Closing Date: 11 June 2010.
saga.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Saga
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 774888
Email human.resources
@saga.co.uk

BROKING
Folkestone
Salary: £14,000
Closing Date: 11 June 2010.
saga.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Saga
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 774888
Email human.resources
@saga.co.uk

Sales Manager
Canterbury
Salary: TBA
We are looking for a Sales Manager If you are an experienced sales person who has worked in a franchised dealership, looking to move into a sales management role, and would like to join the team here at Baileys, we'd like to hear from you. With a competitive salary and commission package we are sure we'll match your expectation, if you can match ours. To find out more contact Brian Smith, Dealer Principal, by email to brian@baileysnissan.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Baileys Nissan
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email brian@
baileysnissan.co.uk

Transport, Logistics, Aviation

Lorry Loader Operator
Rochester
Salary: TBA
A haulier of high repute within the lorry loader industry, requires Lorry Loader Operator at our Cliffe, Kent depot. C+E (Old Class 1) (drawbar) required; full training given for all other aspects. More than a driving job, including lifting & handling, you will enjoy a variation of work getting dirty at times. You will be required to work overtime inc. weekends. You will be focused on customer satisfaction, friendly, polite, presentable and able to work on own initiative. We offer good rates of pay, private medical healthcare and pension scheme to the person with the attitude and aptitude to be an ambassador for the company. Contact Jason Green with brief details by calling 01634 221791
To apply/more information:
David Watson Transport
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 221791
Email applications@
jobsforkent.co.uk

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

10/01618/HOUSE Crit Hall Cranbrook Road, Benenden
- Use of existing outbuilding as residential accommodation ancillary to the main house, and new garage building (LB)

10/01619/LBC Crit Hall Cranbrook Road, Benenden
- Listed Building Consent: Use of existing outbuilding as residential accommodation ancillary to the main house, and new garage building (LB)

10/01688/HOUSE White Chimneys Nineveh Lane, Benenden
- Proposed ground floor extension (LB)

10/01534/HOUSE Chapel House Maidstone Road, Brenchley
- Renew roof covering over rear kitchen including lowering the pitch. Demolish existing outbuilding and replace with log cabin (CA)

10/01599/FUL Elmhurst Farm Dundle Road, Brenchley
- Creation of new agricultural access to Elmhurst Farm, and associated works (PROW)

10/01701/LBC Pricklegate Swattenden Lane, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Listed building consent: Amendments to location of door and window in extension (TW/07/00071 & TW/07/00076 refers) (LB)

10/01567/FUL 16 St Johns Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden
- Change of use from A1 shop to A2 offices (CA)

10/01672/LBC 65 Mount Ephraim Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden
- Listed Building Consent - Erection of railings and gate to front elevation (LB)

10/01671/HOUSE Bayham L'Eglise Clayhill Road, Lamberhurst
- Extension and alterations to existing building (LB)

10/01674/LBC Bayham L'Eglise Clayhill Road, Lamberhurst
- Listed Building Consent - Extension and alterations to existing building (LB)

10/01705/FULMJ Putlands Sports And Leisure Centre Mascalls Court Road, Paddock Wood
- Extension of Time - All weather running track with associated perimeter fencing and lighting (TW/05/01141/FULMJ refers) (MAJOR)

10/01454/HOUSE Oakdene House Camden Park, Pantiles & St Marks
- Internal and external alterations including dormer windows and velux windows (CA)

10/01558/HOUSE 41 Broadwater Down Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks
- Extension of Time - Demolition of single storey utility room and shed, the construction of a new single storey replacement; New first floor extension at rear; New shed (TW/04/03185/FUL) (CA)

10/01615/FUL 60 - 62 High Street Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks
- Replacement of existing air conditioning units to rear elevation (CA)

10/01589/FUL Blackhurst Park Halls Hole Road, Park
- Extension of existing terrace of cottages to provide one additional dwelling and to include internal alterations (CA) (LB)

10/01596/LBC Blackhurst Park Halls Hole Road, Park
- Listed Building Consent - Extension of existing terrace of cottages to provide one additional dwelling and to include internal alterations (LB)

10/01633/HOUSE Dolphin House Camden Park, Park
- Conservatory to side elevation (CA)

10/01638/FULMJ OS Plot 5135 Old Orchard, Sandhurst
- Affordable housing scheme consisting of 2 x 1-bedroom apartments; 5 x 2-bedroom houses; 4 x 3-bedroom houses and 1 x 4-bedroom house (Total 12 units) with new access road (LB)

10/01692/FULMJ Land Between 73 - 87 Goods Station Road, St James
- Extension of Time - Demolition of existing buildings; Construct 28 No. new residential units in 3 blocks all on 2 and a half storeys; Block 1: 3 no. 3-bed houses; Block 2: 1 No. studio flat, 8 no. 1-bed flats, 9 no. 2-bed flats; Block 3: 3 no. 1-bed flats, 4 no. 2-bed flats (TW/04/00048 refers) (MAJOR)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement. You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date. You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet.
We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 29 May 2010

HIGHWAYS - District of Ashford

STATION ROAD, HOTHFIELD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of BT cabling works, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Station Road, Hothfield, on or after 1 June 2010, for an estimated period of 4 days or until the works are complete. It is planned that the works will be carried out between the hours of 9.30 am and 3.30 pm, with the road re-opened outside these hours.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Maidstone Road and Cades Road. The alternative route for through traffic will be via via Maidstone Road and Cades Road

VARIOUS ROADS, BETHERSDEN (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of carriageway strenthening and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Various Roads, Bethersden on or after 1 June 2010 for an estimated period of 5 days or until the works are complete.

Road:	**Chester Avenue**
Dates:	1 June for up to 3 days
Extent:	for its entire length
Diversion:	there is no alternative route as it is a cul-de-sac
Road:	**Church Hill**
Dates:	3 June 2010 for up to 3 days.
Extent:	between St Margaret's Church and the junction with Wissenden Lane.
Diversion:	via School Road, A28 Ashford Road, Forge Hill and The Street
Road:	**Forgefield**
Dates:	3 June 2010 for up to 3 days.
Extent:	at its junction with Church Hill, for a distance of approximately 30 metres.
Diversion:	there is no alternative route as it is a cul-de-sac

Whilst Church Hill is closed, there will be limited access to Chester Avenue and Forgefield.

Every effort will be made to maintain access for residents whenever safe to do so, but there will be times when this is not possible.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford

VARIOUS ROADS, DARTFORD (TOWN CENTRE PEDESTRIANISED ZONE) (PROHIBITION OF ACCESS) ORDER 2010 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council has made the above named Order under sections 1(1), (2), 2(1) to 3 and 3(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will be:-

to close the following lengths of roads to all motor vehicles at any time except for goods vehicles being used for the conveyance of goods to or from premises situated in any of the roads or lengths of road between the hours of 17:00 on any day and 10:00 on the following day and which leaves that road or length of road not later than 10:30 on that following day.

exemptions are also included for emergency services, highway related works, universal postal services and for access to properties in the streets with off-street parking by owners and residents. Access with Council permission is also provided for to enable 'high street' use such as markets, roadshows etc.

Road name:	**High Street, Dartford**
Extent:	From the junction with Market Street to the junction with Hythe Street
Road name:	**Lowfield Street, Dartford**
Extent:	From the junction with High Street to the junction with Market Street;
Road name:	**Market Place, Dartford**
Extent:	From the junction with High Street for a distance of 18 metres in a southerly direction.

The Order was signed on 24 May 2010 and will come into force 31 May 2010.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Dartford Borough Council Offices, Civic Centre, Home Gardens, Dartford during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

CLEMENT STREET, SUTTON AT HONE (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use of vehicular traffic on Clement Street, Sutton at Hone for its entire length.

The Order will become effective on 14th June 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 5 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Goss Hill, Barn End Lane, Shirehall Road, Hawley Road and Arnolds Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate works for KHS Drainage Team carrying out soakaway cleansing, J Brownes on behalf of Thames Water carrying out a new water supply and Murphys on behalf of EDF installing a high voltage cable.

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover

COOMBE VALLEY ROAD AND ST RADIGUND'S ROAD, DOVER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of gas mains replacement and a bridge collision protection scheme, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Coombe Valley Road, Dover and restricting traffic on St Radigund's Road, Dover. This takes effect on or after 1 June 2010 for an estimated period of 16 weeks, or until the works are complete.

The effect of the Order is as follows

Coombe Valley Road, Dover:

To prohibit traffic between the junctions with London Road and Edgar Road.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Coombe Valley Road, Barwick Road, St Radigund's Road, Bunkers Hill Road, Hillside Road, Crabble Avenue, Crabble Road, Crabble Hill, Buckland Avenue, Cherry Tree Avenue and London Road.

St Radigund's Road, Dover:

To temporarily suspend the Dover District Council (Various Roads, Dover) (Consolidation of Waiting Restrictions and One Way Traffic Etc) Order 1990 with the following effect

To make the section between the junctions with Magdala Road and Lister Close two-way, restricted to buses on stage carriage services.

To make the section between the junctions with Lister Close and London Road two-way, restricted to buses on stage carriage services and access for all vehicles to and from Lister Close.

To prohibit traffic between the junctions with Lister Close and Magdala Road, with the exception of buses and access

To prohibit Waiting at any time between the existing double yellow lines on that section of St Radigund's Road, between the junctions of London Road and Magdala Road.

The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months and will allow the above-mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature, at any time for the duration of the order.

VARIOUS ROADS, DOVER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Various Roads, Dover, as shown in the schedule to this Order, on or after 1 June 2010, for an estimated period of 2 weeks or until the works are complete.

The extent of each road affected and the alternative route for through traffic are as shown in the Schedule.

Schedule:

Road	**Gilford Road, Deal**
Extent	between the junctions with Victoria Road and Park Avenue
Dates	From 3 June 2010 to 4 June 2010
Alternative route	The Strand, Dover Road, Cornwall Road, Hamilton Road, Mill Road and Park Avenue
Road	**Cornwall Road, Deal**
Extent	between the junctions with Dover Road and Telegraph Road
Dates	From 1 June 2010 to 2 June 2010
Alternative route	Dover Road, The Strand, Gilford Road, Park Avenue, Mill Road and Hamilton Road.
Road	**Church Hill, Shepherdswell**
Extent	between the junctions with Eythorne Road and Mill Lane
Dates	From 1 June 2010 to 3 June 2010
Alternative route	Eythorne Road, Great Haynes, Mill Lane
Road	**Mill Top, Nonington**
Extent	between the junctions with Kelk Hill and Sandwich Road
Dates	7 June 2010 to 9 June 2010 (3 days)
Alternative route	Sandwich Road and Mill Lane
Road	**Somerset Road, Walmer**
Extent	between the junctions with Telegraph Road and Havelock Road
Date	4 June 2010 (1 day)
Alternative route	Telegraph Road, Cornwall Road, Downs Road and Somerset Road
Road	**Church Hill, Eythorne**
Extent	between the junctions with Wigmore Lane and Barfrestone Road
Dates	From 2 June 2010 to 3 June 2010
Alternative route	Shepherdswell Road, Long Lane, Barfrestone Lane and Barfrestone Road
Road	**Milner Crescent, Aylesham**
Extent	At the junction with Dorman Avenue North
Date	Monday 7 June 2010 (1 day)
Alternative route	Dorman Avenue North, Market Place, Boulevard Courrieres
Road	**Geddinge Lane, Denton with Wootton**
Extent	between the junctions with A2 to Wootton Lane
Dates	3 June 2010 and 7 June 2010 (2 days)
Alternative routes	Westbound via the A2 Dover Road, Shelvin Farm Road and Shelvin Lane; Eastbound via Wootton Lane, Swanton Lane, Lydden Hill, A2 Dover Road.
Road	**Cornwallis Avenue, Aylesham**
Extent	between the junctions with Dorman Avenue North and Grasmere Way
Dates	From 8 June 2010 to 10 June 2010
Alternative route	Dorman Ave North, Market Place, Kings Road and Cornwallis Avenue

GORE LANE, EASTRY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that to allow BT access to a carriageway box for cabling and jointing works, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Gore Lane, Eastry on or after 20 June 2010 for an estimated period of 1 day or until the works are complete. It is planned the works will be carried out between the hours of 8.30 am and 4.00 pm.

The road will be closed outside 13 Boteler Cottages. The alternative route for through traffic will be via Mill Lane, High Street, Woodnesborough Lane, Lower Gore Lane and Gore Lane.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

ROAD FARM LANE, OTTERDEN (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Road Farm Lane 30 metres north of Oakenpole Wood on or after Monday 14th June 2010 for a period of up to 12 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Slade Road, Lady Margaret Manor Road, Seed Road and Road Farm Lane.

EDF Energy apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to provide a new electrical supply. Should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is David Creasey of Amber Langis Limited on 01732 783985.

HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway

ST JOHN'S CHURCH ROAD, FOLKESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of gas mains replacement, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting westbound traffic on St John's Church Road, Folkestone, between the junctions with Bournemouth Gardens and Radnor Park Road.

This takes effect from 7 June 2010 for an estimated period of up to 4 weeks or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Bournemouth Gardens, Bournemouth Road and Radnor Park Road.

HIGHWAYS - District of Swale

ROOK LANE, BOBBING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of BT duct laying, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Rook Lane, Bobbing, on or after 14 June 2010 for an estimated period of 5 days or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Keycol Hill, Bobbing Hill and Coldharbour Lane.

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

VARIOUS ROADS, THANET (WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND STREET PARKING PLACES) (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT NO 22) ORDER 2009

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council has made the above named Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order introduces no waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the following lengths of road:-

Brooke Avenue

(a) On the western side from a point opposite a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 1 and 3 Brooke Avenue, in a northerly direction to the junction with Crow Hill Road;

(b) On the eastern side from a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 1 and 3 Brooke Avenue, in a northerly direction to the junction with Westfield Road;

Caxton Road

(a) On the northern side from a point from a point 3 metres east of a point opposite a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 3 and 4 Caxton Road, in a westerly direction to the junction with Maynard Avenue;

(b) on the southern side from a point in line with the common boundary Nos 3 and 4 Caxton Road, in a westerly direction to the junction with Westfield Road;

Crow Hill Road

(a) On the northern side from a point 5 metres east, opposite a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 1 and 3 Crow Hill Road in an easterly direction to the junction with Maynard Avenue;

(b) On the southern side from a point 7 metres east of a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 1 and 3 in an easterly direction, to the junction with Brooke Avenue;

Maynard Avenue

(a) On the eastern side from a point opposite a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 56 and 58 Maynard Avenue in a southerly direction to the junction with Westfield Road;

(b) On the western side from a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 56 and 58 Maynard Avenue in a southerly direction to the junction with Crow Hill Road;

Westfield Road

(a) On the northern side from a point 2 metres west of the common boundary of Nos 2 and 4 Westfield Road, in a westerly direction to the junction with Maynard Avenue;

(b) On the southern side from a point 3 metres west, opposite a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 12 and 14 Westfield Road, in a westerly direction to the junction with Brooke Avenue

The Order was signed on 24 May 2010 and will come into force 31 may 2010.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at the Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose

VARIOUS ROADS, THANET (WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND STREET PARKING PLACES) (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT NO 23) ORDER 2009

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council has made the above named Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order introduces no waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the following lengths of road:-

Dane Valley Road

(a) on the north eastern side from a point opposite a point 5 metres north west of the western kerb line of the access road to Unit C Oakwood Trading Estate in a south easterly direction to the junction with Northdown Hill

(b) on the south western side from a point 5 metres north west of the western kerb line of the access road to Unit C Oakwood Trading Estate, in a south easterly direction to the junction with Northdown Road

Northdown Hill

(a) on the north eastern side from a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 6 and 8 Northdown Hill in a south easterly direction to the junction with Westover Road

(b) on the south western side from a point opposite a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 6 and 8 Northdown Hill in a south easterly direction to the junction with Dane Valley Road

Northdown Road

(a) on the north eastern side from a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 77 and 79 Westover Road in a north westerly direction to the junction with Westover Road

(b) on the south westerly side from a point opposite a point in boundary of Nos 77 and 79 Westover Road in a north westerly direction to the junction with Dane Valley Road

Westover Road

(a) on the north eastern side from a point opposite a point 5 metres south east of the common boundary of Nos 77 and 79 Westover Road in a north westerly direction to the junction with Northdown Hill

(b) on the south western side from a point 5 metres south east of a point in line with the common boundary of Nos 77 and 79 Westover Road in a north westerly direction to the junction with Northdown Road

The Order was sealed on 24 May 2010 and will come into force 31 May 2010.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Thanet District Council, Cecil Street, Margate during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made there under have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

VARIOUS ROADS, THANET
(WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND STREET PARKING PLACES) (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT NO 24) ORDER 2009

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council has made the above named Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will be to introduce changes to the parking bays on the following lengths of road:-

Churchfield Place

on the western side extend the pay and display parking bay by a further 4.5 metres in a southerly direction.

Mill Lane

(a) on the northern side extend the pay and display parking bays by a further 1.5 metres in an easterly direction

(b) on the southern side extend the pay and display parking bays by a further 6 metres in an easterly direction

Victoria Road

on the western side extend the length of 4 hour parking bays by 12 metres in a southerly direction.

The Order was sealed on 24 May 2010 and will come into force 31 May 2010.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Thanet District Council, Cecil Street, Margate during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

YOPPS GREEN ,PLAXTOL
PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road, the Kent County Council intend to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Yopps Green Plaxtol from outside Barton Farm House on or after Tuesday 8th June to 2 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for, Tree Lane, Plaxtol Lane, Tonbridge Road, Bewley Lane and Sheet Hill.

Owen Mullen Contractors apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for Bt to carry out duct work, their contact is Steven Mullon on 0179542.9800

SANDY LANE, RYARSH
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road, the Kent County Council intend to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Sandy Lane, Ryarsh on or after 14th June 2010 for a period of up to 2 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for Sandy Lane Ryarsh the route described above is for via A20 London Road, Town Hill, High Street, West Street and Norman Road and vice versa

Kent highways Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary drainage works Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Jamie Finch on 01233 614000

VARIOUS ROADS, TONBRIDGE AND MALLING
(WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND ON-STREET PARKING PLACES) (AMENDMENT NO 1) ORDER 2010

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council propose to make the above named Order under sections 1(1) and (2), 2(1) to (3) and 3(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The Order will have the effect of introducing "school keep clear" markings in Discovery Drive in the vicinity of the Discovery Drive School in the interest of public safety to all pedestrians crossing this road gaining access to and from the school.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at the Council Offices, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent and at Kent Highway Services, Doubleday House, St Michael's Close, Aylesford

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to the Transportation & Development Manager (Tonbridge and West Malling), Kent Highway Services, Doubleday House, St Michael's Close, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 by noon on Monday 21 June 2010.

DEAKIN LEAS, TUNBRIDGE
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intend to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Deakin Leas Tonbridge, from the junction of Deakin Leas and Pembrury Road to the entrance of Tonbridge Grammer School on or after Monday 14th June 2010 a period of up to 4 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is The Drive into Baltic Road

Southern Water apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for the installation of a new foul/Storm pipeline Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Steven Smith/Shaun Jenner on 078844 73796 078844 73796

VARIOUS ROADS, TONBRIDGE AND MALLING
(WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND ON-STREET PARKING) (AMENDMENT NO. 2) ORDER 2010

Notice is hereby given that the Kent County Council acting as the local traffic authority and in exercise of its powers under Sections 1, 2 & 4 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended, and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act, proposes to make the above Order.

The Order will introduce no waiting 'at any time' prohibition (double yellow lines - DYL) to prevent parking at unsuitable places and reinforce the rules of the Highway Code at the following locations: Admiral Moore Drive, Bentley Close and McKenzie Close, Royal British Legion Village, **Aylesford**; Buckmore Park Main Entrance Road off Lord Lees Roundabout (west) and the three access spur roads leading to Buckmore Park, Nil Desperandum Lorry Park and unnamed road south to Recreation Ground, Blue Bell Hill, **Aylesford**; Church Street at junction with Baker Street and opposite entrance to Golden Eagle car park, **Burham**; Bell Lane junction with Fernleigh Rise, **Ditton**; Beech Road, Northern and Southern entrances to The Mallings School, **East Malling**; Swallow Road eastern junction with Kingfisher Road, **Larkfield**; Addlestead Road junction with Snoll Hatch Road, **East Peckham**; Orchard Road junction with The Freehold, **East Peckham**; High Street (A26) junction with private road leading to Primary School, **Hadlow**; western junction of Greenview Crescent with Brookmead, **Hildenborough**; Brookmead junction with Meadway, **Hildenborough**; Foxbush, at its junction with Tonbridge Road (B245), **Hildenborough**; Lower Street, Hildenborough; Leigh Road junction with Stocks Green Road, **Hildenborough**; Audley Avenue, west of its junction with Pembroke Road and west of its junction with Alders Meadow, **Tonbridge**; Audley Rise south of its junction with Audley Avenue, **Tonbridge**; The Chase junction with Derwent Road and Severn Close; **Tonbridge**; Kings Road junction with Mountfield Park, **Tonbridge**; Lower Haysden Lane junction with entrance road to Haysden Country Park; **Tonbridge**; Upper Hayesden Lane and Brook Street junctions with Lower Haysden Lane and Masefield Way; **Tonbridge**; River Walk, **Tonbridge**; Royal Rise, **Tonbridge**; High Street junctions with Rectory Lane and Knowle Road, Wouldham.

In addition, the Order will:

- Upgrade existing single yellow lines (SYL) to no waiting 'at any time' prohibition (DYL) on the south west side of Pound Road, East Peckham.
- Introduce no waiting restriction Monday to Friday, 8.00 am to 9.00 am and 3.00 pm to 4.00pm (SYL) in Leigh Road, Hildenborough to improve visibility and safety outside the primary school.
- Introduce no waiting restrictions Monday to Friday, 9.00 am to 4.00 pm (SYL) to discourage long stay parking and improve daytime access and amenity for residents in Royal Rise, Tonbridge.
- Introduce no waiting Monday to Friday, 10.30 am to 11.00 pm (SYL) to discourage long stay parking and daytime obstruction in Lower Haysden Lane, Tonbridge.
- Confirm the relocation of the Disabled Persons' Parking Places in The Botany, Tonbridge.
- Confirm the Disabled Persons' Parking Place in River Walk, Tonbridge.

The Order will contain the usual exemptions to enable a vehicle to wait with police permission or for passengers to board or alight, for the loading and unloading of goods, for enabling work to be carried out in or adjacent to the road, for disabled persons and for emergency vehicles.

A copy of the Order together with relevant maps, a copy of the Councils reasons for proposing to make the Order, may be inspected during normal office hours at the offices of Tonbridge and Malling Council, Kings Hill, West Malling or Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge and the Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall Maidstone Kent.

If you have any questions concerning the Order or require further information please contact 01732 876222 during normal office hours.

Any person wishing to support, or object to the Order, should write to the Director of Planning, Transportation and Leisure, Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling Kent ME19 4LZ quoting the name of the Order and stating their reasons, by not later than 12 noon on Monday, 21st June, 2010.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tunbridge Wells

SWATLANDS LEVEL CROSSING, LUCKS LANE, PADDOCK WOOD
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by traffic on Lucks Lane at Swatlands railway level crossing on Sunday 6th June 2010 between 0700hrs and 1800hrs or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Maidstone Road, Wagon Lane, Queen Street and Lucks Lane.

Network Rail apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for track maintenance purposes. Should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Roger Casement of Roger Casement Traffic Management Services

A268 QUEEN STREET, SANDHURST
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on A268 Queen Street between Sponden Lane and Marsh Quarter Lane on or after Tuesday 1st June 2010 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via A268 Link Hill, A28 Hastings Road, A28 Rolvenden High Street, A28 Tenterden Road, Rolvenden Hill, Rolvenden Road, West Cross, Tenterden High Street, East Cross, Ashford Road, Silver Hill, A262 Biddenden Road, Tenterden Road, A262 Biddenden High Street, Sissinghurst Road, The Street, A229 Angley Road, Hartley Road, Hawkhurst Road, Cranbrook Road, A268 Rye Road, Megrims Hill, Queen Street.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for essential carriageway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Tony Carreck on 08458 247 800.

VARIOUS ROADS IN BOROUGH OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the routes described in the Schedule.

The alternative routes as described will be noted in the schedule. Access will be maintained up to the points of closure. The Order will become effective on Saturday 19th June 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

Schedule

Road Name:	**Benenden Road, Benenden**
Extent:	Walkhurst Road to Stepneyford Lane
Dates:	Start: 19th June 2010 End: 20th June 2010 - days
Diversion:	Iden Green Road, A268 Link Hill, A28 Hastings Road, A28 Rolvenden High Street, B2086 Benenden Road
Road Name:	**Vale Road, Tunbridge Wells**
Extent:	Mount Pleasant Road to A26 London Road
Dates:	Start: 23rd July 2010 End: 28th July 2010 – 4 working nights
Diversion:	High Street, A26 London Road
Road Name:	**High Street, Cranbrook**
Extent:	Waterloo Road to Wheatfield Drive
Dates:	Start: 13th August 2010 End: 16th August 2010 – 2 working nights
Diversion:	Waterloo Road, A229 Angley Road, Cranbrook High Street
Road Name:	**A262 Goudhurst Road, Goudhurst**
Extent:	Glassenbury Road to A229Angley Road
Dates:	Start: 16th August 2010 End: 17th August 2010 - nights
Diversion:	A262 Goudhurst Road, A229 Angley Road, Hartley Road, Glassenbury Road, A262 Goudhurst Road
Road Name:	**Whitewell Lane, Cranbrook**
Extent:	A229 Angley Road to A262 Goudhurst Road
Dates:	Start: 16th August 2010 End: 17th August 2010 - nights
Diversion:	A229 Angley Road, A262 Goudhurst Road

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate carriageway resurfacing works to be undertaken by Kent Highway Services.

Please note: Access will be maintained for all residents, businesses and their visitors as much as possible during the works.

For further information or comment please call Tony Carreck of Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

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TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS – NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS

The following applications have been submitted to the Council and are being advertised for the reason(s) given in each case.

TM/10/00961/OA – The Caravan East Street Addington West Malling Kent ME19 5DH – Mr R Hayward is applying for Outline Application: Proposed 3 x 3 bedroom detached houses and associated detached garages. Reason: DEPART

TM/10/01011/FL – Land At Well Street East Malling West Malling Kent – Mr J Fuller is applying for change of use of land for stationing of two caravans for residential occupation with associated development (utility shed, hardstanding, amended access, access track and septic tank). Reason: DEPART

TM/10/00999/LB – The Coach House St Thomas More R C Church Lucks Hill West Malling Kent – Rev Peter Soper is applying for Listed Building Application: Refurbishment and partial demolition of existing coach house building and erection of a timber framed extension and link to new class room, with associated hardsurfacing to form courtyard and fencing. Reason: CA LB

TM/10/00849/LB – Long Gore Cottage Green Lane Trottiscliffe West Malling Kent ME19 5DX – Mr Christopher Drayson is applying for Listed Building Application: Repositioning of gas boiler to first floor, removal of existing flue and waste pipes and new external flue and soil stack. Reason: LB CA

TM/10/00989/FL – 46 - 48 High Street Snodland Kent ME6 5AQ – Co-Operative Group (CWS) Ltd are applying for change of use to first and second floor from A1 to residential, provide new gates to front elevation, new access way and staircase to side with new doorway to side and windows to rear. Reason: CA

TM/10/01179/LB – Three Post Boys High Street Wrotham Sevenoaks Kent TN15 7AA – Mr And Mrs M R Fraser are applying for Listed Building Application: Modification of existing shop front dormer to provide proper structural support and effective weathering. Reason: LB CA

TM/10/00876/FL & TM/10/00879/LB – The Stables 49 Canon Lane Wateringbury Maidstone Kent ME18 5PQ – Wateringbury Place Holdings are applying for (A) refurbishment and recladding of barn to include a new roof, eaves and elevational treatment, glazed sliding panels to front elevation, installation of mezzanine floor and change of use of barn as Orchid House & (B) Listed Building Application: Refurbishment and recladding of barn to include a new roof, eaves and elevational treatment to include rooflights; glazed sliding panels and windows; timber louvers and the installation of a mezzanine floor at 1st floor. Reason: CA LB

TM/10/01112/LB – 48 The Stream Ditton Aylesford Kent ME20 6AG – Mr Simon Webley is applying for Listed Building Application: Removal of failed cement render on north-facing wall, repair of water damaged oak structure, removal of redundant brick flue stack and maintenance work. Reason: CA LB

TM/10/00938/FL – Big Motoring World (Former Valrosa) London Road Addington West Malling Kent ME19 5PL – Mr Peter Waddell is applying for retrospective application for the change of use of the former Venture Cafe building, associated land and residential land for the display and sale of motor vehicles. Demolition of the existing bungalow, garage and office building (formerly Valrosa). Erection of a two storey extension to the former Venture Cafe building for office use in connection with the display and sale of motor vehicles. Provision of car parking and vehicle display areas. Reason: HA

TM/10/01240/FL – Highlands House 121 Willow Wents Mereworth Maidstone Kent ME18 5NF – Mr And Mrs J Wardell are applying for proposed internal and external alterations and single storey link extension (revision to TM/09/00635/FL). Reason: LB HH

Reasons for the case being publicised:

LB Application relates to/affects a Listed Building or its setting
CA Application is within/affects a Conservation Area
DEPART Application does not accord with the Development Plan
HA Site is over 1ha.
HH Householder application - As this is a householder application, in the event of an appeal against a refusal of planning permission, which is to be dealt with on the basis of representations in writing, any representations made about this application will be sent to the Secretary of State, and there will be no further opportunity to comment at appeal stage.

These applications are displayed on our website www.tmbc.gov.uk – click on the button "Online Planning" (then View Existing Applications and select Public Access). You can submit your comments by emailing to planning.applications@tmbc.gov.uk (please quote the application number by the date set out below). Please note that we will publish a copy of any representations received on the Council's website, including your name and address.

Copies of applications listed may be seen during office hours (8.30 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday). Any applications within Hadlow, Hildenborough and Tonbridge are available at Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge. Other applications are available at the office of the Director of Planning, Transport & Leisure, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ. Any representations should be made in writing quoting the application number by 20 June 2010.

David Hughes
Chief Executive
30 May 2010

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

HIGHWAYS AGENCY

HIGHWAYS AGENCY
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980
1. THE A21 TRUNK ROAD (TONBRIDGE TO PEMBURY DUALLING) ORDER 20..
2. THE A21 TRUNK ROAD (TONBRIDGE TO PEMBURY DUALLING) (DETRUNKING) ORDER 20..
3. THE A21 TRUNK ROAD (TONBRIDGE TO PEMBURY DUALLING SIDE ROADS) ORDER 20..
4. THE A21 TRUNK ROAD (TONBRIDGE BYPASS TO PEMBURY BYPASS DUALLING) ORDER 1996 (REVOCATION) ORDER 20…
5. THE A21 TRUNK ROAD (TONBRIDGE BYPASS TO PEMBURY BYPASS DUALLING SIDE ROADS) ORDER 1996 (REVOCATION) ORDER 20…
6. THE A21 TRUNK ROAD (TONBRIDGE BYPASS TO PEMBURY BYPASS DUALLING SLIP ROADS) ORDER 1996 (REVOCATION) ORDER 20…
7. THE A21 TRUNK ROAD (TONBRIDGE BYPASS TO PEMBURY BYPASS DUALLING) (DETRUNKING) ORDER 1996 (REVOCATION) ORDER 20…
8. A21 TRUNK ROAD (TONBRIDGE TO PEMBURY DUALLING) COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER (NO) 20…

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Public Local Inquiries will be held in relation to the Secretary of State for Transport's proposal for the draft Orders listed above.

THE INQUIRIES will be presided over by Mr J Watson BSc MICE FCIHT MCMI, an Inspector appointed on the nomination of the Planning Inspectorate, by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Secretary of State for Transport for the purposes of conducting Inquiries into the above draft Orders.

THE ORDERS in question are:-

1. An Order under sections 10 and 41 of the Highways Act 1980 which will provide that roads which the Secretary of State proposes to construct (the "new main road and slip roads") along the following routes shall become trunk roads from the date when the Order comes into force:
   a) a route to connect the A21 Tonbridge Bypass south of Tonbridge with the A21 Pembury Road west of Pembury.
   b) four routes from the A21 Pembury Road to and from the southbound and northbound carriageways of the trunk road which the Secretary of State proposes to construct at Fairthorne.
   c) four routes from the A21 Pembury Road including two roundabouts to and from the southbound and northbound carriageways of the trunk road which the Secretary of State proposes to construct at the Longfield Road / Tonbridge Road junction at Pembury
2. An Order under sections 10 and 12 of the Highways Act 1980 which will provide that the length of the A21 Trunk Road to be superseded by the new trunk road shall cease to be a trunk road and that the lengths remaining shall be classified as a classified road from the date on which the Secretary of State notifies the Kent County Council that the new trunk road is open for traffic
3. An Order under sections 12,14 and 125 of the Highways Act 1980, in relation to the A21 Trunk Road as proposed to be improved by the Secretary of State and the slip roads to be constructed by him at Tonbridge, Fairthorne and Pembury in the County of Kent, which will:
   (1) authorise him to :
      a) improve highways,
      b) stop-up highways,
      c) construct new highways,
      d) stop up private means of access to premises, and
      e) provide new means of access to premises
   All between Tonbridge and Pembury in the vicinity of the A21 Trunk Road and the slip roads; and
   (2) Provide for the transfer of each new highway to the Kent County Council as highway authority as from the date on which he notifies them that it has been completed and is open for traffic.
4. Four Orders, numbered 4, 5, 6 and 7 above, under sections 10, 12,14, 41, 125 and 326 of the Highways Act 1980 which, if made, would revoke:
   - The A21 Trunk Road (Tonbridge Bypass to Pembury Bypass Dualling) Order 1996.
   - The A21 Trunk Road (Tonbridge Bypass to Pembury Bypass Dualling Side Roads) Order 1996.
   - The A21 Trunk Road (Tonbridge Bypass to Pembury Bypass Dualling Slip Roads) Order 1996.
   - The A21 Trunk Road (Tonbridge Bypass to Pembury Bypass Dualling) (Detrunking) Order 1996.
5. An Order under sections 239, 240, 246 and 260 of the Highways Act 1980, numbered 8 above, which if made will authorise the Secretary of State to purchase compulsorily the land and new rights described in the Schedule to the Order for the purpose of:
   a) The construction of the new main road and slip roads and the improvement of the A21 Trunk Road between Tonbridge and Pembury in pursuance of the A21 Trunk Road (Tonbridge to Pembury Dualling) Order 20..;
   b) The construction and improvement of highways and the provision of new means of access to premises in pursuance of the A21 Trunk Road (Tonbridge to Pembury Dualling Side Roads) Order 20..;
   c) The diversion of watercourses and the execution of other works on watercourses in connection with the construction of the new main road and slip roads, the construction and improvement of other highways and the execution of other works mentioned above;
   d) Use by the Secretary of State in connection with such construction and improvement of highways and the execution of other works mentioned above;
   e) The mitigation of any adverse effect which the existence or use of the highways proposed to be constructed or improved would have on their surroundings.

THE INQUIRIES will commence on Tuesday 13 July 2010 at the Ramada Jarvis Hotel, 8 Tonbridge Road, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 4QL starting at 10.00am. All persons with an interest in the Public Inquiries are invited to attend.

PROCEEDINGS on the draft Orders are being taken concurrently in accordance with section 257 of, and paragraph 20 in Schedule 1 to, the Highways Act 1980.

COPIES of the draft Orders and of the plans referred to in them have been deposited and may be seen at all reasonable hours free of charge, at the Highways Agency, Major Projects (South), Federated House, London Road, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 1SZ;

THE INSPECTOR will hear representations from remaining objectors as defined in the Compulsory Purchase (Inquiries Procedure) Rules 2007 so far as concerns the Order numbered 8 above, and from statutory objectors as defined in the Highways (Inquiries Procedure) Rules 1994 so far as concerns the other Orders named above. He will also, at his discretion, hear representations from any other persons who may desire to appear and be heard.

OBJECTORS are reminded that the substance of any objection or representation may be communicated to other people who may be affected by it; that it will be passed to the Inspector holding the Inquiries; and that he may be required to disclose at the Inquiries the objection or representation and, unless there are special reasons to the contrary, the identity of the author.

PAUL ARNOLD
Senior Manager, Highways Agency

21 May 2010.

Town and Country Planning Act, 1990
Notice of Public Inquiry

Application 10/01219/LBCDEM/AT2 Burgess Hill Farm Pembury Road Capel Tonbridge Kent
Listed Building Consent: Demolition of Oast house, garages and stables within farm complex

Application 09/03911/LBCDEM/AT2 Burgess Hill Farm And Barn Pembury Road Capel Tonbridge Kent
Listed Building Consent: Demolition of farmhouse and barn

REASON FOR INQUIRY

To consider above applications made to us by the Secretary of State for Transport c/o Highway Agency, and referred to the Secretary of State under section 77 of the 1990 Act and also various Orders relating to the proposed A21 Tonbridge to Pembury Dualling Scheme will also be considered. Application **09/03909/ADJ A21 Tonbridge To Pembury Dualling Pembury Road Capel Tonbridge Kent.**

The Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 will attend at **The Ramada Jarvis Hotel, 8 Tonbridge Road, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, TN2 4QL** on Tuesday 13th July 2010 at 10.00am to consider the appeal. The expected duration of this Inquiry is 16 days.

Members of the public may attend the Inquiry and, at the Inspector's discretion, express their views. Suitable facilities will be in place for any disabled attendees.

You may inspect the appeal documentation online using Public Access on our website, at the Weald Information Centre, The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent. Gateway opening hours will be Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday - 9 am to 5 pm and Thursday, 9.30am to 6.30pm and Saturday 10am to 4pm.

KENT POLICE AUTHORITY
AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2009/10

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Sections 14 and 15 of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003:-

1. From 14th June 2010 to 9th July 2010, between the hours of 10am and 4pm, Mondays to Fridays, any person interested, on application to the Treasurer at the Kent Police Authority, Gail House, Lower Stone Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6NB, may inspect and make copies of the accounts of the above named authority for the year ended 31st March 2010, and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers, and receipts relating thereto.
2. From 12th July 2010 until the audit is closed local government electors for the area to which the accounts relate may exercise their rights under sections 15 and 16 of the Audit Commission Act 1998 to question the auditor about or make objections to the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2010. The external auditor, Darren Wells, can be contacted at: Audit Commission, First Floor, 16 South Park, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1AN

Mark Gilmartin
Chief Executive

Kent Police Authority

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Crop tops demand up despite economic cuts

By **STEVE LOADER**

WE HAD the first news of long-threatened economic spending cuts this week, but many car buyers are still keen to spend on a different kind of cutback – a convertible.

There is lots of choice new and used, with prices in the latter sector firming up from seasonal demand and sunshine, but also due to the feel-good factor from crop-top motoring in these gloomy times.

The UK has been the star convertible market in Europe for some 15 years – mad when you consider our rainy climate – with enthusiasm further fuelled by folding hardtops, pioneered in the mainstream by the 2001 Peugeot 206CC.

Choice before that had been limited largely to the two-seat MX-5 and MGF roadsters and executive four-seaters like the BMW 3-Series and Audi A4.

The Golf convertible – still a good buy if you can track one down in good condition – was an anomaly now superseded by the Golf-derived, but individually styled Eos.

The MG has returned to the market, but is largely built in China and assembled in the UK.

The Peugeot 207CC continues a pioneering tradition, while Renault's Megane CC's glass roof folding hardtop is unique in the sector

The MX-5 is now in its third generation and available with either classic 'ragtop' or ingenious CC (coupé convertible) folding hardtop – the latter folds behind the seats so boot space is uncompromised.

Having invented the folding hardtop back in the 1930s though, Peugeot has built upon its modern day CC range, with the 206CC giving way to the far more solid 207CC and bigger and quite upmarket 308CC.

Renault counters the latter with its stylish Megane Coupé Cabriolet, but will also launch the sporty little Wind two-seater soon – also with a folding hardtop.

Its most obvious rival is the nicely balanced Vauxhall Tigra and both models have great feminine appeal.

But if it is serious wind-in-the-hair motoring you want and with seating for four, then the executive marques are there to relieve you of your cash, with newly-revitalised Saab offering great deals on its classic 9-3 Convertible (main picture), though BMW, Audi and Mercedes-Benz will also vie for your business.

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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

Hybrid hype stepped up by a new Toyota

TOYOTA is about to step up the debate over hybrid cars by launching a more affordable model based on its Auris family hatchback built in Britain.

The new petrol-electric model will be produced at the firm's Derbyshire plant, be exempt from road tax due to its lower emissions, and all versions will average at least 70mpg.

But, as ever, the new five-door hybrid will not be cheap to buy; prices start from £18,950 and though this will be for high spec T4 and T Spirit grades, this is still a whopping £4,000 higher than the entry price for a conventional five-door Auris.

On the other hand, premium prices charged by some manufacturers for eco/low emission versions of normal diesel models does not exactly boost the argument against hybrids either, though I hope to see Renault dismantle that little racket (see next story).

The Auris HSD is available to order now, with deliveries from July 1.

Eco Renault challenges premium priced rivals

RENAULT has opened order books on a new eco-friendly version of its Clio supermini capable of averaging well over 70mpg.

Significantly, buyers of the low emission (98g/km of CO2) 86bhp diesel Clio ecoÇ can also have either three (£12,690) or five-door (£13,255) versions for the same price as their conventional equivalents emitting 115g/km of CO2 while saving their road tax.

Fleet customers do even better with the lower emissions delivering benefit-in-kind tax cuts, too.

The French marque's stand on equality though is in sharp contrast to the pricing policy adopted for Britain's best-selling superminis, the Ford Fiesta Econetic, Peugeot 207 Economique and Vauxhall Corsa EcoFlex, which cost £500 to £1,050 more than their higher emitting equivalents.

It's a practice I have highlighted across other car market sectors – how long will the premium pricers be able to put up with being named and shamed?

VW Golf Match ready to tee off again

WELCOME again to the Golf Match – VW's best-known Golf special edition over several generations of the long-running family hatchback.

As hard-pressed UK car buyers hunt more value, the new variant replaces the SE trim level and adds more than £1,600 of extra equipment, while costing just £300 more than the outgoing car.

The Match also comes with the newly-available option of an eco-friendly BlueMotion model for added economy and performance.

Match prices start from £17,730 for the 1.4-litre TSI three-door and the range is available to order for delivery from late June.

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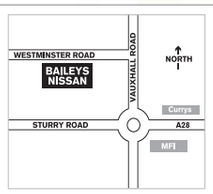

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Peugeot aiming to make 3008 the automatic choice crossover

by STEVELOADER

PEUGEOT will expand its multiple award-winning 3008 crossover line-up in a few days' time with a powerful 163bhp 2.0-litre automatic version, from £21,395.

The new engine, which meets the new stringent Euro 5 emission standards, is a major rework of the robust 136bhp unit featured in other Peugeots.

And, as other carmakers have done, it means the French marque has been able to pull off the apparently contradictory feat of boosting power while lowering consumption and emissions.

It is also available only with a six-speed automatic gearbox, which shows the increasing popularity of 'self-shifters' with buyers of MPVs, SUVs and cars that straddle both classes in the aptly named crossover class inhabited by the 3008.

This gearbox has also been developed to aid and abet the new model's fuel consumption and CO2 emissions, by using a more efficient torque converter – guilty of so much wasted engine power by conventional auto 'boxes – and reduce internal friction losses.

As a result, drivers should be able to average well over 40mpg.

In addition, Peugeot says it has boosted the potential comfort benefits of the auto by paying attention to the smoothness and speed of the gear changes and using a high-ratio sixth gear to cut fuel consumption and engine noise levels on motorways.

The gearbox also has an increasingly popular 'twin-mode' set-up: full automatic for quiet, stress-free driving which also adapts to the user's driving style; and a more active 'manual' mode allowing sequential gear selection.

With the latter feature likely to appeal to keen drivers, it should also work well with Peugeot's standard-fit Dynamic Roll Control system built into the 3008's rear suspension.

I've driven several 3008 versions since the launch last year and this works well to make the car ride comfortably, damp out potholes – particularly useful nowadays – and control any tendency for the car's height to make it heel on the bends.

Standard kit on the new model, available in mid-range Sport and Exclusive specs, includes: alloys with energy saver tyres, rear parking aid, cruise control with speed limiter, sound system with MP3 playback, lighting pack with boot net, height adjustable driver and passenger seats, front fog lights, electric windows, air-con, multi-flex interior (row two flat-folding seats, three-position boot load area floor and split tailgate) and remote central locking.

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*Offer on a 6/35 month profile at £99 per month (10000 miles per annum). £594+VAT Deposit and 35 monthly payments of £99. Vehicle shown is Spark 1.2 LT. Vehicle shown features metallic paint available at extra cost of £365. Official Government Environmental Data. Fuel Consumption Figures MPG (Litres/100km). Chevrolet Spark range emissions: Urban 42.8 (6.6), Extra Urban 67.3 (4.2), Combined 55.4 (5.1), CO2 Emissions 119 g/km. Vehicles are shown for illustration purposes only. These offers supersede all previously advertised offers. Prices correct at time of going to press. Offers are subject to availability. Licenced credit brokers, written details available on request, finance is subject to status. E&OE. 42232

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Deposit Percentage	25%	Total Amount Payable	£28,513.92	
Amount of Credit	£19,432.55	Credit Acceptance Fee	£125	
36 Monthly Payments	£360	Option to Purchase Fee	£65	

Model:
CR-V 2.0 i-VTEC EX manual

Fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km):
Urban 26.9 (10.5)
Extra Urban 40.9 (6.9)
Combined 34.4 (8.2)
CO2 190g/km

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2004 54 CLIO 1.2 16V EXTREME3 3DR ALLOYS SPORTS EXHAUST CD SUNROOF 26211 MILES PEARL BLACK	£4,995 A
2005 55 CLIO 5DR 1.4 16V DYNAMIQUE AIRCON SUNROOF ALLOYS 40179 MILES MET PLATINUM SILVER	£5,495 M
2006 06 CLIO CAMPUS SPORT 1.5 dCi 68 3DR FOG LIGHTS ELEC PACK AIR CONDITIONING 31656 MILES IN BLACK	£5,495 C
2006 06 NEW CLIO 1.2 16V EXPRESSION 3DR CD A/C REMOTE LOCKING ELEC PACK 18624 MILES PEARL BLACK	£5,995 A
2007 07 NEW CLIO 1.2 75 EXTREME 3DR RADIO CD ELEC WINDOWS PAS ISOFIX 23310 MILES IN SILVER	£5,995 C
2007 07 CLIO CAMPUS 3DR 1.5 dCi 65BHP SUNROOF C/LOCKING SINGLE C/D PLAYER 29578 MILES MET TEMPEST	£5,995 M
2007 57 NEW CLIO 1.4 16V DYNAMIQUE 3DR 15" ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC PACK 24715 MILES MERCURY SILVER	£6,295 C
2007 57 NEW CLIO 1.2 TCE 100 DYNAMIQUE 3DR 15" ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC PACK 19450 MILES PACIFIC BLUE	£6,495 A
2007 56 NEW CLIO 1.2 75 EXTREME 3DR RADIO CD ELEC WINDOWS PAS ISOFIX 20370 MILES IN MET BLACK	£6,495 C
2007 56 NEW CLIO 1.2 75 EXTREME 3DR ALLOYS CD PLAYER ELEC WINDOWS 20370 MILES IN SILVER	£6,495 C
2006 06 NEW CLIO 1.5 dCi 106 DYNAMIQUE 3DR 15" ALLOYS CD AIR CON SPORTS TRIM 17353 MILES MERCURY	£6,795 A
2007 07 CLIO 1.4 16V DYNAMIQUE 5DR 15" ALLOYSCD AIR CON ELEC PACK 30290 MILES MERCURY	£6,795 A
2007 07 CLIO 3DR 1.2 16V EXPRESSION ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING 9260 MILES METALLIC PEARL BLACK	£6,795 M
2007 07 NEW CLIO 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE S 3DR ALLOYS AIR CON FOG LIGHTS CD PLAYER 20629 MILES	£6,995 C
2007 07 NEW CLIO RIP CURL 1.2 3DR ALLOY WHEELS RIPCURL TRIM C/LOCKING 20917 MILES IN BLACK	£6,995 C
2006 56 NEW CLIO 1.2 EXPRESSION 5-DR AIRCON ELC/WIND PAS C/LOCK 18000 MILES MERCURY SILVER MET	£6,995 M
2006 06 NEW CLIO 1.6 VVT EXPRESSION AUTO AIRCON C/LOCKING SINGLE C/D PLAYER 19823 MILES IN TEMPEST	£6,995 C

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2007 07 CLIO 3DR RIP CURL 1.2 16V ALLOYS AIRCON C/PLAYER 15400 MILES METALLIC ICE BLUE	£6,995 M
2007 07 NEW CLIO DYNAMIQUE S 3DR 1.6 ALLOYS CD AIRCON ELEC PACK 20629 MILES IN MONACO BLUE	£6,995 C
2007 07 NEW CLIO RIPCURL 1.2 75BHP 5DR ALLOYS CD PLAYER C/LOCKING RIPCURL TRIM 25259 MILES	£6,995 C
2007 07 CLIO 5DR 1.2 16V RIP CURL ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING 22812 MILES MET PEARL BLACK	£6,995 M
2007 07 NEW CLIO RIP CURL 1.2 5DR C/LOCKING RIP CURL TRIM ELEC WINDOWS 20917 MILES IN BLACK	£6,995 C
2007 07 NEW CLIO 1.2 RIP CURL 5DR ALLOYS RIP CURL TRIM CD C/LOCKING 25259 MILES IN BLACK	£6,995 C
2007 57 CLIO 3DR 1.2 16V RIP CURL ALLOYS AIRCON C/D PLAYER 19920 MILES MET MERCURY GREY	£7,295 C
2007 57 NEW CLIO 1.4 PRIVILEGE 5DR AIRCON ELEC WIN PAS C/LOCKING CD IN SILVER 23746 MILES	£7,295 C
2007 07 CLIO 1.2 TCE DYNAMIQUE SX 3DR 16" ALLOYS SPORT BODY KIT A/C 24209 MILES PEARL BLACK	£7,395 A
2009 58 NEW CLIO 1.2 16V RIP CURL 5DR 15" ALLOYS CD A/C ELEC PACK 27560 MILES PEARL BLACK	£7,495 A
2008 08 NEW CLIO 1.2 TCE 100 EXPRESSION 3DR 15" ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC PACK 8934 MILES MERCURY	£7,495 A
2008 08 CLIO 3DR 1.2 16V EXTREME PAS C/LOCK SINGLE C/D PLAYER 3467 MILES PACIFIC BLUE	£7,495 M
2008 08 NEW CLIO EXPRESSION 1.2 75 3DR PAS CD FOG LIGHTS ELEC WINDOWS 27729 MILES IN BLACK	£7,495 C
2008 08 NEW CLIO 1.2 75 EXPRESSION 3DR CD PLAYER FOG LIGHTS ELEC WINDOWS C/LOCKING	£7,495 C
2008 08 CLIO 3DR 1.2 16V EXPRESSION AIRCON C/D PLAYER C/LOCKING 19515 MILES MET MERCURY GREY	£7,495 M
2007 07 CLIO 3DR 1.2 16V EXPRESSION AIRCON C/D PLAYER C/LOCKING 10614 MILES MET PEARL BLACK	£7,495 M
2007 57 NEW CLIO 1.2 TCE DYNAMIQUE 5DR AIR CON ALLOY WHEELS FOG LIGHTS 18854 MILES IN MET BLACK	£7,495 C
2007 07 CLIO 3DR 1.4 16V DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING 24382 MILES METALLIC EXTREME BLUE	£7,495 M
2007 57 CLIO 3DR 1.2 TCE DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS C/D PLAYER 16882 MILES METALLIC MERCURY SILVER	£7,995 M
2007 07 NEW CLIO 1.4 PRIVILEGE 5DR ALLOYS AIRCONDITIONING ELEC PACK 12810 MILES IN SILVER	£7,995 C
2007 07 CLIO 5DR 1.5 dCi 106BHP DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS AIRCON C/D PLAYER 33434 MILES MET VOLANIC RED	£7,995 M
2008 58 NEW CLIO 1.2 TCE100 EXPRESSION 5-DR PAS C/LOCK ELC/WIND BLUE 5000 MILES ONLY EX DEMO	£7,995 M
2007 07 NEW CLIO 1.4 PRIVILEGE 5DR ALLOYS AIRCON ELEC PACK 12810 MILES IN SILVER	£7,995 C
2008 58 NEW CLIO 1.2 TCE 100 DYNAMIQUE 3DR 16" ALLOYS CD A/C ELEC PACK 15000 MILES MERCURY	£8,295 A
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2007 07 CLIO 5DR 1.4 16V PRIVILEGE ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING 12645 MILES MET EXTRME BLUE	£8,295 M
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2006 56 NEW CLIO 1.6 PRIVILEGE AUTO AIR CON CD ELEC PACK 8124 MILES IN QUARTZ	£8,495 C
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2007 07 NEW CLIO 1.6VVT INITIALE 5DR ALLOYS AIR CON LEATHER UPHOLSTERY 19693 MILES IN QUARTZ	£8,795 C
2008 58 NEW CLIO 1.2 TCE 100 DYNAMIQUE S 3DR 16" ALLOYS 1/2 LEATHER HANDS FREE CARD 15460 MILES	£8,995 A
2008 58 CLIO 5DR 1.5 dCi 86 DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS A/C C/LOCKING C/D PLAYER 39000 MILES MET PEARL BLACK	£8,995 M
2009 09 CLIO 3DR 1.2 16V 75 EXTREME C/LOCKING SINGLE CD/RADIO 11477 MILES GLACIER WHITE	£8,995 M
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2009 09 NEW CLIO 1.5 dCi 86 EXPRESSION 5DR CD A/C ELEC PACK FRONT FOG LAMPS 9010 MILES PEARL BLACK	£9,295 A
2008 58 NEW CLIO 1.2 16VS/TOURER DYNAMIQUE 15" ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC PACK 10600 MILES STONE	£9,295 A
2009 09 CLIO 3DR 1.5 dCi 86BHP DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING 15540 MILES MET EXTREME BLUE	£9,495 M
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2007 07 RENAULTSPORT CLIO 197 17" ALLOYS CD AIR CON HANDS FREE CARD 22250 MILES ULTRA RED	£9,795 A
2009 09 CLIO 3DR 1.5 dCi 86BHP DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING 17272 MILES MET MERCURY GREY	£9,795 M
2010 10 NEW CLIO 3DR 1.2TCE I-MUSIC ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING 10 MILES METALLIC EXTREME BLUE	£9,795 M
2009 59 NEW CLIO 1.2 16V WSR TOM TOM 3DR SAT NAV BODY KIT 16" ALLOYS CD A/C 50 MILES EXTREME BLUE	£9,895 A
2009 09 NEW CLIO 1.5 dCi 86 DYNAMIQUE S 3DR ALLOY WHEELS FOG LIGHTS AIR CON HALF LEATHER 13607MILES	£9,995 C
2010 10 NEW CLIO 3DR 1.216V DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING 10 MILES METALLIC EXTREME BLUE	£9,995 M
2010 10 NEW CLIO 3DR 1.216V DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING 10 MILES METALLIC MERCURY SILVER	£9,995 M
2009 09 NEW CLIO 1.5 dCi 86 S/TOURER DYN 15" ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC PACK 6215 MILES MERCURY	£10,695 A
2009 09 CLIO SPT/TOURER 1.5 dCi 86 DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING C/D PLAYER 16124 MILESSILVER	£10,795M
2010 10 NEW CLIO 3DR 1.5 dCi 86BHP I-MUSIC ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING 10 MILES METALLIC PEARL BLACK	£10,795 M
2010 10 NEW CLIO 3DR 1.5 dCi 86BHP I-MUSIC ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING 10 MILES METALLIC SILVER	£10,795 M
2009 59 NEW CLIO 1.5 dCi 86 DYNAMIQUE 3DR 16" ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC PACK 7500 MILES EXTREME BLUE	£10,895 A
2009 59 CLIO 5DR 1.5 dCi 86BHP DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS AIR CON CD PLAYER 12236 MILES IN EXTREME BLUE	£10,995 C

TWINGO

2008 08 TWINGO 3DR 1.2 8V EXTREME C/LOCKING SINGLE C/D PLAYER 18150 MILES CAPSICUM RED	£6,495 M
2008 08 TWINGO 3DR 1.2 8V EXTREME C/LOCKING SINGLE C/D PLAYER 17590 MILES IN TEMPEST BLUE	£6,495 C
2008 08 TWINGO 3DR 1.2 DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS RADIO CD ELEC WINDOWS 18977 MILES IN BLAZE	£6,795 C
2008 08 TWINGO 3DR 1.2 16V DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS AIRCON PAN ROOF 17900 MILES MET TEMPEST	£6,995 M
2007 57 TWINGO 3DR 1.2 TCE GT AIRCON ALLOYS C/LOCKING 19275 MILES MET MERCURY GREY	£6,995 M
2007 57 TWINGO 3DR 1.2 TCE GT AIR CON ALLOYS C/LOCKING 15320 MILES IN SILVER	£6,995 C
2008 08 TWINGO 1.2 TCE 100 GT 3DR 15" ALLOYS CLIMATE S/ROOF CD ELEC PACK 7315 MILES PEARL BLACK	£7,695 A
2009 09 TWINGO RENAULTSPORT 133 17" ALLOYS OJP PACK A/C CD BLUE TOOTH 3300 MILES PEARL BLACK	£10,895 A
2009 59 TWINGO RENAULTSPORT 133 17" ALLOYS OJP PACK CD PLAYER 3450 MILES IN CAPSICUM RED	£10,995 C

MODUS

2007 57 MODUS 1.2 TCE 100 EXPRESSION A/C ELEC PACK 4 x AIR BAGS ABS 32973 MILES MERCURY	£6,495 A
2006 06 MODUS 1.6 16V AUTO DYNAMIQUE 15" ALLOYS CD A/C ELEC PACK 17910 MILES MERCURY	£6,495 C
2007 07 MODUS 1.4 PRIVILEGE ALLOYS AIR CON FRONT FOG LIGHTS 5700 MILES IN SILVER	£7,495 C
2007 57 MODUS 1.2 TCE 100 DYNAMIQUE S 15" ALLOYS CD AIR CON 1/2 LEATHER 7715 MILES IN BLACK	£8,295 C
2008 08 GRAND MODUS 1.6 16V AUTODYNAMIQUE 15" ALLOYS CD A/C ELEC PACK 9602 MILES MERCURY SILVER	£8,895 A

MEGANE

2007 07 MEGANE 1.6 VVT EXTREME 5DR 16"ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC WINDOWS 38210 MILES ECLIPSE GREY	£5,995 A
2007 07 MEGANE SPORT HATCH 1.4 16V EXTREME 16" ALLOYS CD A/C ABS ELEC PACK 24580 MILES BLUE	£5,995 A
2005 05 MEGANE SALOON 1.9 dCi 120 DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS AIR CON SUN ROOF ELEC PACK SILVER 38624 MILES	£5,995 C
2007 07 MEGANE 1.6VVT EXPRESSION 5DR AIR CON CD ELEC PACK ABS 6 x AIR BAGS 23355 MILES MERCURY	£6,295 A
2006 06 MEGANE 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE AUTO 5DR 16" ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC PACK 31617 MILES BLUE	£6,495 A
2007 56 MEGANE 5DR 1.4LTR EXPRESSION AIRCON C/LOCKING C/D PLAYER 22000 MILES MET GUNMETAL	£6,495 M
2006 06 MEGANE 1.5 dCi 86 MAXIM AIR CON ELEC PACK FRONT FOG LIGHTS 32612 MILES IN SILVER	£6,495 C
2007 07 MEGANE 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE AUTO 5DR 16" ALLOYS CD A/C ABS ELEC PACK 13700 MILES QUARTZ	£6,895 A
2007 07 MEGANE 1.4 16V EXTREME 5DR AIR CON ALLOYS ABS C/LOCKING KEY CARD 21294 MILES IN GUN METAL	£6,995 C
2007 07 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1.6 VVT 5DR ALLOYS HALF BEIGE LEATHER TRIP COMPUTER 28K IN SILVER	£6,995 C
2007 07 MEGANE 1.4 EXTREME 5DR RADIO CD PLAYER PAS C/LOCKING 21294 MILES IN GUN METAL	£6,995 C
2007 56 MEGANE 5DR 1.6VVT EXPRESSION SINGLE C/D PLAYER C/LOCKING 27800 MILES MET MERCURY	£6,995 M
2008 08 MEGANE 1.4 16V EXTREME 5DR 16" ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC FRONT WINDOWS 13075 MILES QUARTZ	£7,795 A
2005 55 MEGANE ST 1.9 dCi 130 DYNAMIQUE FOG LIGHTS 6CD S/ROOF IN EXTREME BLUE WITH 1800 MILES	£7,995 C
2007 57 MEGANE 1.5 dCi 106 DYNAMIQUE 5DR AIR CONDITIONING ELEC PACK FOG LIGHTS 22142 MILES ECLIPSE	£7,995 C
2008 08 EX DEMO MEGANE 1.5 dCi 106 TECH RUN CLIMATE S/ROOF ALLOYS HANDS FREE CARD 19750 MILES	£8,495 A
2007 57 MEGANE 1.5 dCi 86 DYNAMIQUE CD PLAYER ALLOYS AIRCON 19248 MILES IN SILVER MET	£8,495 C
2007 57 MEGANE 5DR 1.5 dCi 86 DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING 26000 MILES MET EXTREME BLUE	£8,495 M
2008 58 MEGANE 3DR 1.5 dCi 106 TECH RUN 16" ALLOYS CLIMATE HANDS FREE CARD 20362 MILES HOLOGRAM	£8,795 A
2008 58 MEGANE 5DR 1.5 dCi 106 BHP DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING 22444 MILES PEARL BLACK	£10,295 M
2008 58 NEW MEGANE 1.6 110 DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS AIR CON S/ROOF CD ELEC PACK 13000 MILES BLACK	£11,995 M
2009 59 NEW MEGANE 1.5 dCi 106 DYNAMIQUE 16" ALLOYS CD C/C HANDS FREE LOCKING 5905 MILES BLUE	£12,995 A
2009 59 NEW MEGANE 1.5 dCi 106 DYNAMIQUE 16" ALLOYS CD C/C HANDS FREE LOCKING 6055 MILES RED	£12,995 A
2009 09 NEW MEGANE COUPE A.6 EXPRESSION ALLOYS AIR CON C/LOCKING ELEC WINDOWS 2104 MILES BLUE	£12,995 C
2008 58 NEW MEGANE 1.9 dCi 130 DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS AIR CON SUNROOF CD ELEC PACK 13000 MILES GREY	£12,995 M
2009 09 NEW MEGANE COUPE 1.6 EXPRESSION ALLOYS AIR CON IPOD CONNECTIVITY 2124 MILES IN MET BLUE	£12,995 C
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2010 10 NEW MEGANE 5DR 1.5 dCi 86 I-MUSIC ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING DELIVERY MILEAGE MET RUBY RED	£14,995 M
2010 10 NEW MEGANE 5DR 1.5 dCi 86 I-MUSIC ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING DELIVERY MILEAGE MET GREY	£14,995 M
2009 59 NEW MEGANE COUPE 1.9 130 PRIVILEGE 17" ALLOYS 1/2 LEATHER BLUE TOOTH 12491 MILES	£18,995 M
2009 59 NEW MEGANE RS250 COUPE 19" ALLOYS RECARO SEATS RS COMPUTER AND MORE 1800 MILES WHITE	£20,995 C

SCENIC

2005 05 GRAND SCENIC 2.0 DYNAMIQUE AUTO 16" ALLOYS CD A/C ELEC PACK 44100 MILES STORM BLUE	£5,995 A
2007 07 SCENIC 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE 16" ALLOYS CD A/C ELEC PACK 26646 MILES QUARTZ	£7,295 A
2007 07 SCENIC 1.6VVT DYNAMIQUE 16" ALLOYS CD A/C ELEC PACK 18320 MILES QUARTZ	£7,495 A
2007 56 SCENIC 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE 16" ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC PACK 21410 MILES MERCURY SILVER	£7,495 A
2006 06 SCENIC 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE AUTO ALLOYS CD PLAYER AIRCON ELEC PACK 23100 MILES IN SILVER	£7,495 C
2006 56 SCENIC 5DR 1.6VVT DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING 34820 MILES MET FLAME RED	£7,495 M
2007 07 GRAND SCENIC 5S 1.9 dCi 130 PRIVILEGE 16" ALLOYS CD AIR CON 1/2 LEATHER 39880 MILES BLUE	£7,895 A
2006 06 G-SCENIC 7ST 2.0 AUTO PRIVILEGE CLIMATE ALLOYS HALF/LEATHER BEIGE 17084 MILES PACFIC BLUE	£7,995 M
2007 56 SCENIC 1.6VVT AUTO PRIVILEGE 16" ALLOYS CD 1/2 LEATHER HANDS FREE CARD A/C 16790 MILES	£7,995 A
2007 07 GRAND SCENIC 2.0VVT DYNAMIQUE AUTO AIR CON 7 SEATS CD ELEC PACK PAS C/LOCKING 27743 MILES	£8,495 C
2007 07 SCENIC 2.0 dCi 150 AUTO PRIVILEGE 16" ALLOYS 6xCD A/C 1/2 LEATHER 34486 MILES EXTREME BLUE	£9,295 A
2008 57 GRAND SCENIC 1.6 DYNAMIQUE 5DR AIR CON 7 SEATER CD ELEC PACK 18753 MILES IN QUARTZ	£9,295 C
2008 08 SCENIC 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE AUTO 16" ALLOYS CD A/C C/C ELEC PACK 10010 MILES PEARL BLACK	£9,495 A
2007 57 G-SCENIC 7ST 1.5 dCi 106BHP DYN'S' ALLOYS CLIMATE 1/2 LEATHER 34306 MILES MET MERCURY GREY	£9,495 M
2008 08 GRAND SCENIC 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE AIR CON 7 SEATER CD ELEC PACK 13607 MILES IN QUARTZ	£9,495 C

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A

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2008 08 GRAND SCENIC 1.5 dCi 106 DYNAMIQUE 16" ALLOYS CD A/C 7 SEATS 20863 MILES QUARTZ	£10,395 A
2009 09 NEW GRAND SCENIC 1.5 106 EXPRESSION AIR CON ELEC PACK 7 SEATS ESP 6262 MILES IN BLUE MET	£14,495 C
2009 59 NEW GRAND SCENIC 1.5 dCi DYNAMIQUE 16" ALLOYS CD A/C C/C HANDS FREE LOCKING 5940 MILES GREY	£14,995 A
2009 59 G-SCENIC 7ST 1.5 dCi 106BHP DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS AIRCON HANDS FREE CARD 9923 MILES MET RED	£14,995 M
2009 59 NEW GRAND SCENIC 1.5 106 IMUSIC AIR CON ALLOY WHEELS REAR SENSORS 510 MILES IN BLUE MET	£15,995 C

LAGUNA

2007 57 LAGUNA 2.0 dCi 150 DYNAMIQUE'S' ALLOYS CD CLIMATE S/ROOF ELEC SEATS 29300 MILES PEWTER	£9,995 A
2008 08 LAGUNA 2.0 dCi 150 DYNAMIQUE'S' 1/2 LEATHER 17" ALLOYS CD CRUISE CLIMATE S/R 15104 MILES BLACK	£10,995 M
2008 58 LAGUNA 2.0 dCi 175 DYNAMIQUE 17" 1/2 LEATHER HANDS FREE CONVEN PACK 26875 MILES BLACK	£11,495 A
2009 09 LAGUNA 2.0 dCi 150 AUTO XENONS 18" ALLOYS REAR PARK SENSORS CLIMATE 9350 MILES	£16,395 A
2009 09 LAGUNA S/TOURER 2.0 dCi 180 INITIALE LEATHER SAT NAV PARK SENSORS ELEC SEATS 6500 MILES BLUE	£16,895 A
2009 59 LAGUNA COUPE GT 2.0 dCi 180 BHP BODY KIT 4 WHEEL STEER 11000 MILES MET OYSTER EX-DEMO	£19,995 A
2009 59 LAGUNA COUPE GT 180 dCi BOSE SOUND SYSTEM 3D NAV BEIGE LEATHER 10498 MILES IN BLACK	£22,995 C

CABRIOLET

2006 56 MEGANE CC 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE AIR CON ALLOYS CD ELEC PACK 31491MILES MET BLACK	£8,995 C
2007 57 MEGANE CC 1.9 dCi 130 PRIVILEGE FULL LEATHER 17" ALLOYS CRUISE 21950 MILES QUARTZ	£10,495 A

KANGOO

2006 56 KANGOO 1.6 16V AUTO EXPRESSION PAS C.LOCKING CD/PLAYER 16288 MILES MET INTENSE BLUE	£6,795 M

KOLEOS

2009 58 KOLEOS 4X4 2.0 dCi 150 PRIVILEGE 17" ALLOYS FULL LEATHER S/ROOF SAT NAV 20243 MILES GREY	£16,795 A
2009 09 KOLEOS 4X4 2.0 dCi 175 PRIVILEGE ALLOYS CLIMATE FULL GREY LEATHER 10453 MILES MET	£16,995 C

OTHER MAKES

2007 07 PEUGEOT 207 S 1.4 3DR AIR CON ALLOYS ELEC PACK FRONT FOGS 20044 MILES IN DIABLO RED	£6,995 C
2007 57 SEAT IBIZA 1.4 FORMULA SPORT 1 ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC PACK IN CLAK MAGIC WITH 18851 MILES	£6,995 C
2003 53 MINI COOPER S 1.6 6xCD 17" ALLOYS CLIMATE 52500 MILES YELLOW/BLACK STRIPES	£7,395 A
2007 57 PEUGEOT 207 S TD SW CD A/C ELEC SUNROOF TWIN AIRBAGS 15370 MILES	£7,895 A
2006 56 FORD FIESTA 2.0 ST 3DR LEATHER AIR CON ELEC PACK 17869 MILES IN MET BLUE	£8,495 C
2009 09 FORD FOCUS 1.6 ECONETIC TD 109 5DR AIR CON CD ELEC PACK 22324 MILES METALLIC BLUE	£9,795 A

LOCATION KEY: A = Ashford **C** = Canterbury **M** = Maidstone

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CR-V rises to challenge of distinctive rival SUVs

HONDA made a lot of the radical new look for its third generation CR-V when in arrived in late 2007.

Just as buyers started to get the negative message about so-called gas guzzling 4x4s, the Japanese marque cried 'not all 4x4s are the same'. And with that, it unveiled a slick new CR-V quite different from its bluff pseudo off-roader predecessors and far cleaner and more economical than the 4x4 monsters giving the sector a bad name.

Since then though, we have seen many more stylish compact SUVs (sport utility vehicles) to rival the CR-V and the 'not all 4x4s are the same' plug has rather backfired on the CR-V.

It is no longer the most attractive alternative to look at and far from being the cheapest, even though UK production at Swindon ought to make it less prone to the weakness of the pound, which is inflating new car prices here.

On the other hand, it is a marvellous package and has benefited from a recent revamp bringing minimal cosmetic changes, but delivering an extra 10bhp and improved emissions quality from Honda's excellent 2.2-litre diesel – the so-called 'whispering diesel' – and CR-V best-seller by far.

It whispers even more now – you have to floor the throttle to make the unit clatter, but it mostly delivers power freely and quietly.

For many would-be buyers though it is the introduction of the smooth-changing five-speed auto diesel option that will be most welcome.

DrivingReview

by **STEVE LOADER**

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

Honda CR-V

Unfortunately, at £1,370, it is not cheap and lacks the manual selection option we have come to expect on new generation auto 'boxes.

This is a shame because the CR-V chassis is well-tuned to press on driving; some may find the ride quality firm, but it gives this relatively big and high-riding car great tenacity and very little body roll on the bends.

There is no doubting interior quality either and the ergonomics are excellent, with Honda favouring a gearshift closer to the dashboard where the left hand naturally drops to it from the wheel.

Fittings are upmarket and comfort levels excellent, with good lateral support on the front seats, plus adjustable armrests and there is plenty of stowage, including a separate dashboard compartment with USB link for your iPod/iPhone or MP3 player.

Rear passengers are well catered for, with lots of legroom and a completely flat floor.

The 60/40 split/folding rear seats can also be adjusted fore and aft and raked back for

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*Offers apply to vehicles registered from 4th January 2010 until such point as they may be withdrawn by Peugeot Motor Company PLC at its discretion. Offers subject to availability and on selected models only. *Over 18s only. A guarantee may be required. Written quotations available on request from Peugeot Financial Services, Quadrant House, Princess Way, Redhill, RH 1 1QA. Peugeot Personal Lease offers: 207 Verve 1.4 8v 3dr Initial rental £1,452, 46 monthly rentals. Optional final rental £3,731. Agreed mileage 6,000. 107 Urban 1.0 3dr Initial rental £1,652.18, 46 monthly rentals. Optional final rental £3,715. Agreed mileage 6,000. If you choose to pay off the optional final rental at the end of the contract, you can keep the vehicle but you will not own it – you will pay an annual rental equivalent to one of your monthly rentals. If you exceed your agreed annual mileage you may incur excess mileage charges. These offers are available at participating dealers only. (PR.IG34978)

greater comfort on long journeys and adjustment of child seats. However, ultimate boot space is hampered by the tail end being pinched for height and width and a lot of roof lining encroachment at the sides, contrasting sharply with the boxy Nissan X-Trail and the classy yet practical VW Tiguan.

The biggest rival in my book though is the Hyundai Santa Fe, a bargain that also offers a seven-seat option – if you don't worry about badge snobbery.

But Honda's badge does carry a lot of weight with consumers and is mentioned increasingly alongside German executive brands, while still offering a typically high specification.

Even after noting that our EX flagship test car weighed in at more than £29,000 – including that pricey auto – I also recognised how it groaned beneath the weight of add-ons.

Look beyond the price then because, it seems still the case that not all 4x4s are the same.

DrivingPortfolio

HONDA CR-V EX AUTO £29,135

Driving appeal	★★★★
Image	★★★★
Space	★★★★
Value	★★
Running costs	★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
How green?	★★
Road tax	£235/year (£425 year one)
Best rival	Hyundai Santa Fe

TheVerdict

DON'T LIKE:
…price. If Honda must play the 'built in the UK card', it should reflect sterling's weakness

NOT SURE:
it represents such a different buying/styling proposition as Honda thinks it does

REALLY LIKE:
the bulletproof build and all-round competence, even if it is pricey

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Models shown: Grand Cherokee 3.0 CRD Overland Tech £33,995 OTR. Model features optional metallic paint at an additional £500 including VAT. Wrangler Ultimate 2-Door £24,995 OTR. Patriot 2.4 Sport petrol manual £14,995 OTR. Model features optional metallic paint at an additional £450 including VAT. On the road prices include Vehicle Excise Duty (VED), first registration fee and VAT. Prices and specifications correct at time of going to press (05/10). Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.

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†(2) Typical finance example for low rate finance. *Including Credit Facility Fee and Completion Fee.

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ALFA ROMEO

147, 1.9 JTDm 16v DUCATI CORSE Q2, 2008, abs brakes air con alloys cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats tonneau cover trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, black, 10200 miles, £13000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

159, JTDM 16v Lusso, 2008, abs brakes air con alloys cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering, blue, 10000 miles, £15000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRERA, JTDM (210), 2008, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering, red, 22250 miles, £15000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

BRERA, JTDM (210), 2008, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering, red, 22250 miles, £15000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

GT, JDTm, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, black metallic, 54000 miles, £8825, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

GT, JDTm, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, black metallic, 54000 miles, £8825, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

GTV, 2.0 TS 16v LUSSO, 2002, alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser power steering remote central locking, grey, 59400 miles, £4000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

GTV, 2.0 TS 16v LUSSO, 2002, alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser power steering remote central locking, grey, 59400 miles, £4000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MITO, JTDM Lusso, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior, white, 2100 miles, £14250, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

MITO, JTDM Lusso, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior, white, 2100 miles, £14250, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ASTON MARTIN

DB9, Volante V12, nk57eef, full leather, satellite navigation, alarm, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, remote alarm, remote central locking, centre armrest, electric seats, head restraints, heated seats, height adjustable seat, lumbar support, sports seats, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, parking sensor, power steering, stability control, traction control, trip computer, abs, brake assist, multiple airbags, quick-clear screen, colour coded body, front fog lamps, headlamp jetwash, metallic paintwork, rain-sensing wipers, xenon headlamps, auto-dip rearview, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, stereo, where will you find another at this great value. at Big Motoring World we average over 350 bmw's in one place. visit our website for even more details. we are open 7 days a week and easily located off the m25, m26 and a20. big enough to cope, small enough to care. out of hours contact 07956 158119, blue, 12001 miles, £79997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

AUDI

A2, FSI SPORT, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior power steering trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, black, 39000 miles, £6500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A2, FSI SPORT, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior power steering trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, black, 39000 miles, £6500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3, TDI SE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering trip computer remote central locking, silver, 84350 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A4, SE, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering trip computer remote central locking, silver, 63000 miles, £5000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A4, S4 Quattro Tip Auto, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags, black, 27000 miles, £21000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A6, 4.2 quattro se tip, 2005, grey metallic with light grey leather, 38000 miles, £11999, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

TT, V6 COUPE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint leather interior power steering reverse parking aid traction control trip computer remote central locking, silver with grey leather, 17000 miles, £19390, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BENTLEY

AZURE, Azure CONV AUTO SAT NAV, 25225188, full leather, satellite navigation, alarm, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, remote alarm, remote central locking, centre armrest, electric seats, head restraints, heated seats, height adjustable seat, lumbar support, rear armrest, adjustable steering column, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, parking sensor, power steering, stability control, traction control, trip computer, abs, brake assist, multiple airbags, quick-clear screen, colour coded body, front fog lamps, headlamp jetwash, metallic paintwork, rain-sensing wipers, xenon headlamps, auto-dip rearview, electric mirrors, electric windows, power hood, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, stereo, at Big Motoring World we average over 350 bmw's in one place. visit our website for even more details. we are open 7 days a week and easily located off the m25, m26 and a20. big enough to cope, small enough to care. out of hours contact 07956 158119, silverlake blue, 19373 miles, £119000, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

BMW

1 SERIES, 1.6ES, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloys cd player central locking electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint, silver, 19200 miles, £11500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 318i Edition SE, 02, one owner from new grey leather interior cruise control reversing sensor 6 pack cd player front fog lights electric windows air conditioning immaculate condition must be seen £4,995.00, metallic green, 45000 miles, £4995, Bird, Kent, 01227 470602 (PRIVATE)

5 SERIES, 525d SE, 2004, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, blue, 43629 miles, £13975, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

6 SERIES, 645 ci coupe auto, 2004, silver metallic with black dakota leather, 71000 miles, £14950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

7 SERIES, 750i Auto, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats leather interior multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation sunroof television, blue, 39750 miles, £18990, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

8 SERIES, 840 ci sport coupe auto, 1997, silver metallic with grey leather sport seats, 121000 miles, £5850, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CHEVROLET

AVEO, LT, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, black, 20523 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

KALOS, SX, 2005, abs brakes drivers airbag electric windows power steering, silver, 48000 miles, £3000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

LACETTI, 1.4 SE, 2007, abs brakes electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking, blue, 13232 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

MATIZ, SE, 2007, cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering split folding rear seats trip computer, blue, 41000 miles, £4000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

TACUMA, 2.0 CDX, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, blue, 19632 miles, £4000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CHRYSLER

300C, V6 CRD Auto, 2006, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, blue, 38000 miles, £11995, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CROSSFIRE, V6, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking cruise control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights heated seats immobiliser leather interior power steering sports seats traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, red, 29000 miles, £10000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

GRAND VOYAGER, 7745079, air conditioning, climate control, power steering, full leather, head restraints, electric seats, remote central locking, remote alarm, electric windows, electric mirrors, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, privacy glass, parking sensor, centre armrest, multi-disc cd player, radio, twin air bags, curtain airbags, cruise control, traction control, abs, auto-dip rearview, powered folding mirrors, trip computer, adjustable steering column, height adjustable seat, roof rails, alloy wheels, stow & go, silver, 47200 miles, £11995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

SEBRING, 2.4 Limited, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player cruise control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history heated seats immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, black, 22156 miles, £7500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

VOYAGER, 2.8 CRD Touring, 2008, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player climate control cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid tinted glass traction control trip computer remote central locking multi functional tunepoint (i-pod and mp3 connection), silver, 35013 miles, £18000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

DAIHATSU

CHARADE, El 3dr, wu54hoj, power steering, air bag, cloth upholstery, head restraints, immobiliser, stereo, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, abs, blue, 51000 miles, £3299, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

COPEN, 2005, air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag front fog lights full service history heated seats immobiliser leather interior power steering sports seats twin airbags remote central locking, red, 16872 miles, £6500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

TERIOS, Sport 5dr Auto, 7821079, power steering, air con, abs, twin air bags, cd player, radio, electric front windows, electric mirrors, remote central locking, remote alarm, front fog lamps, rear headrests, cloth upholstery, alloy wheels, 4x4, silver, 43000 miles, £5995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

FERRARI

575M MARANELLO, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking climate control electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering sports seats traction control, black, 14500 miles, £54900, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

FIAT

500, 16v, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, red, 261 miles, £14000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

DOBLO, Multijet Eleganza, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit diesel electric windows mp3 player multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking twin sliding doors, various, 8 miles, £14000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

IDEA, Dynamic, 2005, abs brakes cd player central locking diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer remote central locking, blue, 34000 miles, £4000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MULTIPLA, 1.6 Dynamic 5dr Estate, gy56fmz, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, radio/cd, trip computer, passenger airbag, electric door mirrors, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, service indicator, body coloured bumpers, immobiliser, cloth seat trim, isofix child seat anchor points, 3x3 point rear seat belts, height full size spare wheel, steel wheels, lagoon blue metallic, 30000 miles, £6995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

PANDA, 1.2 Dynamic 5dr Hatch, ml56mwd, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, trip computer, passenger airbag, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, immobiliser, isofix child seat anchor points, body coloured bumpers, surf azure metallic, 17400 miles, £5495, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

QUBO, Multijet Trekking, 2010, abs brakes air con alloys bluetooth car kit diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering tinted glass traction control trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking twin sliding doors roof bars, various, 8 miles, £11300, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

SCUDO, Bonhoeffa Hot & Cold Catering With Coffee Machine, av06mdn, large fridge display. large rear oven. franke coffee machine. handwash facilities. large selection of catering / vending trucks. black, 25000 miles, £14995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

FORD

FOCUS, LX, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats tinted glass trip computer twin airbags curtain airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, blue, 6338 miles, £7000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS C-MAX, insurance group 6 abs air con alarm alloys audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment steering wheel reach adjustment 1 owner service history, panther black, 11000 miles, £7000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FUSION, Zetec (Climate), 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, ink blue, 50766 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

KA, ZETEC 1.2, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint tinted glass twin airbags remote central locking, blush pearlescent, 3000 miles, £10480, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

KUGA, 2.0, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £25000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

HONDA

ACCORD, 2.2EXEC SATNAV/HFT, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors leather interior multiple airbags remote central locking, nighthawk black, 16000 miles, £15700, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CIVIC, 1.6SEAUTO, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint, silver, 40000 miles, £6795, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

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INSIDE THIS WEEK

HUMAN resources practitioners have had a busy time of late.

First they had to ease companies and their staff through recession and now it is about gearing up to new growth. As our experienced Big Interview subject Mark Moorton says – it's now far from the 'tea and sympathy' image of HR in the past.

And if things are changing there, ask yourself how much the mobile phone market has been revolutionised and check out our excellent guide to the best biz phones and systems.

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'Business as usual' no longer an option

NEVER mind seeing the back of a recession and election, Kent's business landscape has been changing dramatically for some time, ***writes Steve Loader***.

Redundancies have fed a hunger to go self-employed, while many companies have emerged from recession leaner and more customer-focussed.

Some have even embraced co-operation with rivals against wider competition, while others are heeding a call to give youth and its fresh ideas a chance as the business community rebuilds.

All of these trends emerge from a raft of post-election reports and surveys, with the big positive being the number of Kent people who have taken the plunge into self-employment; a fifth of the county's respondents in the latest Kelly workforce survey described themselves as 'self-employed' – one of the highest levels in the UK.

Of the rest, almost half said they would like to work more independently, and 17 per cent have been bitten by the entrepreneurial bug and can't wait to start their own business, with Gen Y (aged 18-29) being the most ambitious to take the plunge, particularly in the education, government, engineering and IT sectors.

A Kelly spokesman said many Kent employees had turned redundancy into a positive "to reinvent themselves as independent contractors, freelancers and consultants, as well as starting their own businesses".

Not surprisingly for a firm that specialises in outsourcing, consultancy and temporary staffing, Kelly reckons self-employment's appeal coincides with a trend toward subcontracting after many organisations cut staff during the downturn.

Recession-bred trends also emerged from The Economist Intelligence Unit survey, showing manufacturers are leaner and hungry for new markets.

They also want closer customer relationships and many know they have to offer better after-market services or products more closely tailored to customers' needs.

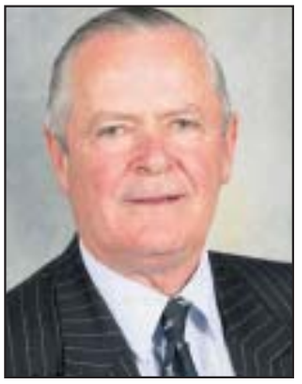
Unthinkable

However, the positive stance is offset by worries about transport, energy and raw materials costs and needing to invest in research and development to stay ahead of the competition. This is why many are prepared to partner with others; nearly one in five thought the previously unthinkable and would partner with a rival, to share resources in the face of competition. Two-thirds of these already share ideas with third parties.

Many also have green products on the way or are making processes more eco-friendly due to consumer demand or regulatory pressure.

The forward-thinking are also being targeted by the Government Future Jobs Fund aimed at injecting fresh blood into public, private and voluntary sector bodies.

This offers paid six-month work or training placements to 18-24-year-olds who have been unemployed for six months or more.



BOOST: Future Jobs Fund a great opportunity, says KCC's Mike Hill

Kent County Council secured £6.5 million from this pot to create 1,000 full-time placements over 18 months, inside and outside the authority – 750 are still available.

Applications and administration are handled by KCC so employers only have to interview those candidates suitable for the role.

Councillor Mike Hill, KCC cabinet member for community services said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for employers to bring fresh enthusiasm and ideas into their organisations and businesses at no cost to themselves.

"In the current economic climate some businesses have had to scale back staff, or not re-fill vacant posts. This is an ideal way to give your business a boost and give these young people valuable experience and future prospects at the same time."

Kent tells Londoners 'check out the wonders on your doorstep'

TOURISM chiefs in Kent have launched a charm offensive on the county's closest and trickiest target market – the capital.

Some 150 posters were unveiled this week in London commuter train stations and key interchanges on the Underground, designed to capture the imagination of residents and entice them to Kent.

They use unusual and alluring images of Botany Bay in Broadstairs, The Goods Shed in Canterbury and Hever Castle in Edenbridge, all designed to show the passion and energy of the Garden of England in the 21st century.

The scheme has been masterminded by the county's tourism partnership Visit Kent, backed by £400,000 from Kent County Council, enabling the commissioning of top London creative agency M&C Saatchi to set-up the three-year campaign, which includes the push into the capital.

PICTURESQUE: Canterbury's The Goods Shed was used in campaign

Cllr Kevin Lynes, cabinet member for regeneration and economic development at KCC, said: "Through the campaign images, award-winning photographer Jean-Luc Bénard has changed our perception of Kent as a tourist destination. I look at his shot of Botany Bay and it could be the Algarve. His Hever Castle imagery could have been shot in India. My hope is this campaign will encourage other people to see this stunning county of ours in a new contemporary light, just as I have."

Visit Kent chief executive Sandra Matthews-Marsh said: "The timing is perfect, with continued concerns about flying and the strength of the euro still making the traditional European haunts of the British expensive, this campaign is positioned to remind Londoners and commuters what's on their doorstep."

• THE Kent Greeters volunteer visitor guide scheme has won the right to bear the prestigious official Inspire Mark, awarded by organisers of the 2012 London Olympics to groups supporting the Games in a variety of ways.

Kent Greeters is modelled on the New York's Big Apple Greeters and was the first of its kind in Europe.

Visitors to Kent who book a Greeter meeting are matched with a local volunteer who shares their interests, such as local history, cycling, rural pursuits or sport, and who is available on the day.

"They are then able to experience a local's expertise to ensure they get the best out of their time in the area."

Comment

PROOF that there's nothing new under the sun comes from our front page news that many Kent people have chosen or been pushed to go self-employed as a result of the recession.

It sounds remarkably similar to stories I covered in the early 1990s, when Britain's ill-fated attempt to join the ERM and a faltering battle with inflation precipitated another UK economic train wreck and confirmation of our Groundhog Day cycle of boom and bust – didn't a chap called Brown promise an end to all that?

Then, as now, many people took their redundancy – and pay-offs were usually a lot more generous than current legislation dictates – and used it to set-up on their own.

In many cases they found that their old firm/organisation was only too happy to hire back their services on an ad hoc basis, usually paying for exactly what they needed instead of funding a salary and benefits, office space and, often, a company car.

Admittedly, some of these new independents were considerably out of pocket in relation to their previous relationship with that employer, but would then often find one or two other chunks of work elsewhere to create the foundation of a good little business.

And they often found that overheads were lower; I have a friend who works out of a shed in his garden, but enjoys flexible working hours and is visibly far happier than he ever was as an employee.

He doesn't miss the status of a company car either, being only too happy to quote the tax bill he incurred on it; he now runs a modest secondhand motor and says it saves him money off his tax bill.

It's a familiar story being retold across the county though I reckon many of the newly self-employed are braver than before, because we are stumbling out of a worse recession than that of 20 years ago.

In addition, some have had miserly severances or, having seen the writing on the wall, have jumped before being pushed or been tempted by an entrepreneurial opening.

Good luck to them and long may they thrive and survive.

STEVE LOADER, BUSINESS EDITOR

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Bank bond the rescuer of hard-hit charities

PEOPLE in Kent are being urged to help create a £1 million investment fund to support charities in the region – simply by opening a savings account.

The Kent Community Bond is available from Tonbridge-based Charity Bank, a registered charity that is also a regulated bank, which uses depositors' funds solely to invest in and support the charitable sector.

Money raised by the bank's bond will provide loan finance to charities, social enterprises and other community organisations across Kent.

The bank's chief executive Malcolm Hayday said: "The faltering economy has hit charities hard. Donations have fallen, while at the same time demands on charities' services have increased. With the help of its depositors, Charity Bank has a key role to play in providing vital funds to these organisations.

"The Kent Community Bond enables people and organisations to support charity without giving their money away, by depositing with us.

"Through them we can help Kent charities – and the people they were set up to support – not just survive, but thrive."

Charity Bank depositor Anthony Gill, from Frittenden, said: "The attraction of saving with Charity Bank is that I know the funds are being put to good use by charities and community groups, while earning me a financial return at the same time.

"Charity Bank provides updates on projects that have been supported, which is an extra reward. The new bond is a great way for people in Kent to support charitable work in the region, without having to give their money away."

Folkestone Sports Centre Trust is one of more than 720 charities to have loan finance agreed by Charity Bank.

CHARITY BANK

Striving to improve the health and welfare of local residents on low incomes by providing affordable sports and fitness facilities, the centre was in dire need of updating.

Charity Bank agreed a loan facility of £1.2m and the project is also being supported by Big Issue Invest, the financing arm of the Big Issue magazine, with a £225,000 loan towards costs of a new roof.

General manager at the centre, Tessa Stickler, said: "Working with Charity Bank was great because they were the only people that really understood our needs, and I'm not sure we could have made this happen without their support."

Part of the Charities Aid Foundation family, Charity Bank started life in 2002, and now has a balance sheet of more than £60m.

It has committed more than £110m to a range of community activities including sustainable development, health and social care, and education and training projects.

It also scooped two prizes at the KOS Media Business Challenge Awards 2009.

No sting in this tale

BEE keeper and aromatherapist Angie Twydall has teamed up with photographer and designer Sue Nyirenda to found a community-minded business at Wootton, near Canterbury.

Lime Tree Trading produces handmade natural skin products, using its own beeswax and honey and will stage a launch event at Elham Valley Vineyard on June 15 from 7-9pm.

It is also backing an innovative Adopt a Local Beehive campaign that wants people to do something positive to help save our bees, but don't have the time or space to keep a hive.

With adoption, they can foster a bee colony.

The adoption pack costs £30 and includes a free goody bag.

Farming's green shoots in danger of coalition cuts

WE ARE bombarded with news of Government cuts, ***writes Hadlow College's Pat Crawford***.

One potentially disastrous area relates to funding for training in the horticulture/farming industries and it could not be timed more badly.

Farmers are being asked to grow more food, primarily to make the UK more self-sufficient and less dependant on imported food – bearing in mind that world population is predicted to grow by 50 per cent in just 40 years.

Effecting greater self-sufficiency is also related to cutting carbon emissions connected with 'food miles'.

So we are urged to "buy British, buy regionalbuy local" and consumers listen to celebrity chefs such as Jamie Oliver and Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall using buzzwords like 'fresh', 'seasonal' and 'local'.

Restaurants, pubs and tearooms are seizing opportunities afforded by new-found interest in where food comes from and how it is produced. Menu choices relate increasingly to non-pretentious, nutritious, fresh, affordable – and British.

And we are making great progress here in Kent; Produced in Kent, jointly owned by Kent County Council and Hadlow College, is becoming a major force promoting Kent food and drink.

Essential

But our farmers and associated food producers need access to the right skills and Defra figures show horticulture/farming will need 60,000 new trainees over the next few years.

This is good for the rural economy and especially the Garden of England's, yet the threat of cutbacks in the training sector now loom large.

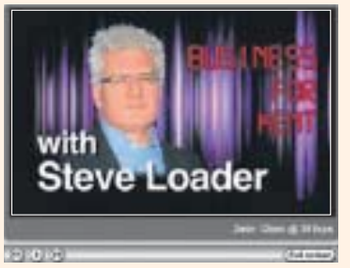
Mark Lumsdon-Taylor, who left the City to join Hadlow College as finance director, said: "It makes sound economic sense to future-proof the horticulture and farming industries by ensuring the sector is kept supplied with a motivated and highly-trained workforce.

"This doesn't only apply to hands-on farming because there will be increasing requirements in all the support services such as agronomy, research and development, quality control, marketing and so on."

Interest in a farming career is better now than it has been for years and years; only five years ago, Hadlow College had just two students studying agriculture – there are now 120.

This is a great comeback, but it is apprenticeships and work-based learning that appear most vulnerable to Government cuts, despite being essential elements in a vibrant, successful, motivated, forward-looking and resourceful farming sector. Let's hope the new Government shows some wisdom.

To see this search 'business' @ yourkenttv.co.uk



All the news and views from around the county with the Business for Kent team, led by business editor Steve Loader

BUSINESS WEEK

online: www.businessforkent.co.uk

FERRY operator LD Lines added a second ship to its Dover-Boulogne service this weekend, boosting daily sailings from eight up to 14.

It is the only operator on the route and LD Lines' managing director Christophe Santoni said the move "reflects our determination to develop and establish the service. The increased frequency and capacity we can now provide will undoubtedly appeal to and meet the demands of both freight and tourist cross-Channel customers".

The newly-named Norman Trader has joined sister ship Norman Bridge on the route and each can carry up to 130 cars and 40 trucks.

The expanded service and choice was welcomed by the Port of Dover where a spokesperson added: "LD Lines' commitment to developing the route shows both confidence in the cross-Channel market going forward and in Dover as a port of choice. We wish them continued success."

At the other end of the route, Boulogne has started a 200 million euro, 10-year investment plan for development and expansion of the port.

RIVAL ferry operator SeaFrance has been rated number one in the sector for website usability and telephone customer service in a survey conducted by eDigitalResearch.

The eTravel Benchmark research by mystery shoppers also placed SeaFrance in the top 10 of all travel brands surveyed.

One mystery shopper said: "It's one of the nicest websites I've used… the search and booking process is quick and simple and I was guided through each step."

Phil Taylor, e-commerce marketing manager at SeaFrance, said: "We have always prided ourselves on customer service and, over the last year, we have also worked very hard to create a user-friendly and attractive website for our customers – we're delighted our efforts have been recognised."

CONTEMPORARY Flowers in Canterbury won the Micro Employer of the Year award in the South East Skills Awards, celebrating excellence in vocational education.

Sky News' Sunrise presenter Charlotte Hawkins hosted the awards and said: "Tonight showcased some truly remarkable steps that both individuals and businesses are taking to make skills and learning accessible to all within the workplace."

Rachel Goldsack, of Contemporary Flowers, said: "I am thrilled, especially because we were up against some awe-inspiring competition. We plan on continuing our work within learning and development in the drive to constantly strive for excellence in the workplace."

A CHARITY event held in Hadlow by a chartered building surveyors and the Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce has helped raise vital funds for a leading charity.

The chamber teamed up with Hadlow-based Metcalfe Stanley Hicks Chartered Building Society for a networking event raising funds for Hospice in the Weald in Pembury.

The event featured a display of classic MG cars, a jazz band, a business card prize draw and a raffle to win a makeover experience and dinner at the Hotel du Vin, Tunbridge Wells.

More than 80 invited guests attended and raised a total of £450 for the hospice.

"We are delighted so many joined us for our evening and would like to thank them for their generosity," said Richard Metcalfe of Metcalfe Stanley Hicks.

John Ashelford, CEO of the Hospice in the Weald, added: "The event not only raised much-needed funds for us, but also raised our profile with the local business."

Chamber pleased to have Chancellor's ear

MEMBERS of Kent Invicta Chamber have been told their organisation has a direct line into Britain's new Chancellor George Osborne.

This follows director general of the British Chambers of Commerce, David Frost contacting Invicta's chief executive Jo James soon after the election.

Mr Frost told her: "We had a lengthy discussion on tackling the deficit and importantly how we stimulate growth.

"This follows on from my meetings with him during the run up to the election. He sees it as key to work with us over the coming period.

"So we are off to a good start."

This followed on from a 90-day plan for business growth submitted by the national chamber to the incoming government.

The proposals included:

- public finances – publish credible plan to reduce budget deficit and restore confidence
- freeze public sector wage bill and reform pensions
- measures to promote stable access to finance for viable companies
- infrastructure – avoid deep cuts to infrastructure projects that support business growth
- employment – cancel the planned employer NICs rise – a tax on jobs – in full
- stabilise and de-politicise the planning system, giving businesses confidence to invest
- deliver a radical plan for next-generation broadband to 2040
- pledge not to implement any new employment laws before 2014
- begin a systematic review of existing regulations affecting employers
- trade and exports – Prime Minister to set out a focused vision for an export-centred economy
- introduce a short-term scheme to address market failures in export credit insurance.

Jo James said Kent Invicta Chamber members could now expect regular updates direct from the corridors of power.

New energy blows into Kent port

WIND ASSISTED: The offshore farm will be the world's largest

RAMSGATE will become the hub of a project to build the world's largest offshore wind farm.

By next summer, the Port of Ramsgate will be home to the proposed London Array's construction, operations and maintenance base and some 100 workers.

This follows the signing of an agreement between Thanet District Council and the multi-national consortium behind the project.

As part of the agreement, a new pontoon will be built, and a new fuel pumping facility funded and constructed by London Array in partnership with the council.

The pontoon will berth up to six service vessels capable of reaching the wind farm in around an hour – up to 15 service vessels could be operating out of the Kent port during the construction phase.

Leader of Thanet District Council, Bob Bayford, said: "This is excellent news for Ramsgate and Thanet and we're delighted the Port of Ramsgate has been chosen as the operations base.

"Not only will that bring much-needed jobs into the area, but it also helps to raise the profile of our port and the excellent opportunities that it offers. Offshore energy is an innovative green industry and one that we are proud to be associated with."

SIGN HERE: Bob Bayford, leader of Thanet District Council and Richard Rigg, project director for London Array, agree the deal

London Array's project director Richard Rigg said: "We're delighted to have signed up Ramsgate as our construction and operations base as we look to take this exciting project offshore early next year.

"It's critical to the success of the scheme that we have a base that can offer us everything we need to manage the construction of the first phase of this flagship wind farm and we know that we've found just that at Ramsgate."

London Array will be built around 20km off the coasts of Kent and Essex.

Once complete it will be the world's first 1GW offshore wind farm supplying power for around 750,000 homes – or a quarter of Greater London homes – and displace the emission of 1.9m tonnes of CO2 every year.

Phase one will be completed in 2012 – a second phase is awaiting confirmation.

Former school gives way to £2.8m green housing

WORK has started on an innovative £2.8 million rented housing development at Ramsgate, incorporating the latest in sustainable technology.

It occupies the site of the former Ellington Girls School, which has been demolished, though some original features from the old building are being retained and incorporated within the development, such as the old school gates.

The development of 12 houses and 16 flats is designed to achieve a Code for Sustainable Homes level four rating, requiring high performance building materials and measures to minimise COÇ emissions.

All the new homes will be constructed using sustainably sourced timber frames, with roof-mounted photovoltaic cells on the blocks of flats to generate emission-free electricity.

Solar water heating panels will be mounted on the new town houses, which use heat from the sun to warm domestic hot water supplies.

The development by Orbit Homes and ISG Jackson also has hard and soft landscaping elements and secure bicycle storage to promote greater use of this sustainable transport.

The project is scheduled for completion by early 2011, and Suffolk-based ISG Jackson director Michael Manning said: "Sustainable building design is integral to every Orbit development and ISG Jackson has worked closely with the housing provider to create an extensive number of innovative green communities across the south and east of England.

"This latest project adds to our growing portfolio of developments for many of the UK's leading social and affordable housing organisations."

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BUSINESS WEEK

online: www.businessforkent.co.uk

'My Business Week…'

by TOM WILSON, chief executive of Infratil Airports Europe, which owns and operates Manston, Kent's international airport

MONDAY: Getting ready for a blue riband week at Manston. This Thursday sees the return of daily scheduled passenger services with the launch of a service between Manston and Edinburgh. A case of 'from small acorns…' and with Flybe as our partners we're more confident than ever about the long-term outlook. Delighted to see the 20 new staff, now fully trained and really excited about what the new service means for the airport and Kent.

Hurrah, hear the unpronounceable volcano in Iceland has stopped erupting.

TUESDAY: Met the team from Gainjet, the executive jet charter company based at the airport, its fleet is operating almost at full capacity. Excitingly the World Cup is going to be another boost for the business with its Boeing 757 VIP flying down to South Africa for a month's programme of charter flights. Our freight team is also on a roll, just been told they've picked up more business in terms of handling fresh produce flying in from Africa.

Before heading home I check out progress on the refit of Trailblazer Travel, the new travel agency business opening shortly at the terminal.

WEDNESDAY: An aviation legend landed today – the last ever flight by an RAF Nimrod. The Falklands veteran is being decommissioned and will be taken over to the nearby MoD fire training centre to be used for crash rescue training.

Last-minute check that everything's in place to welcome the first passengers from Edinburgh tomorrow. Spoke to our team about the Margate's Big Event (June 19-20) – once again we're making the airport available to all the aircraft involved.

Great news. Just heard that Flybe will operate a Manston to Manchester service from September.

THURSDAY: The big day arrived and once again the terminal buzzed to the sound of passengers checking-in and our guests from Kent County Council, Thanet District Council, Visit Kent and local chambers.

Passengers piped aboard by pipers from Battalion 5 Scots in Canterbury, to give it an authentic Scottish air. Lots of questions with Kent's press who were all very upbeat and supportive.

FRIDAY: Passengers arrive for the next Flybe departure; we've got this every day until March 26, 2011, as demand has led the airline to now operate it as a daily year-round service on the route. So people get booking – Edinburgh's only 80 minutes away, it takes longer to get to London by train for most people in Kent.

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Staff morale is firms' most vital human resource

KOS media BUSINESS WEEK THE BIG INTERVIEW

HUMAN resources is a company function that grew from two trends.

Firstly, recognition by early industrialists, such as the famous Cadbury chocolate dynasty, that workers' welfare and happiness could be beneficial to their business.

Secondly, that the relentless drive for efficiencies in manufacturing through dull and repetitive mass production techniques could have a detrimental effect on staff morale.

Nowadays, most larger firms have a separate HR function and never will they have been busier than during the recent recession and the current, and by no means guaranteed, recovery.

We spoke to experienced HR professional **MARK MOORTON** about lessons that businesses could learn on staff morale and recruitment.

MARK MOORTON

MANY company proprietors and managers agonise about the staff cuts they must make during hard times, only to overlook those left people inside the building says Mark Moorton.

Aged 48, he has some 30 years' experience in the human resources (HR) arena and the recent cycle is all too familiar.

"In the good times, staff are moving around the market, looking for better opportunities," he said.

"In tougher times, people become fearful of making a move at the wrong time and stay put. They then see themselves as stuck in your company. They become resentful – not necessarily towards your organisation – but to circumstances and it can soon affect others. If you are working alongside somebody who is moaning all day, you soon get fed up yourself.

"It is not helpful, so a good company and its HR dept will pursue a policy of engagement – you have to keep people motivated."

He added that staff morale is often not helped by media speculation during an economic crisis, making employers and employees nervous.

This varies by sector though, he said, as he noted during his time in the financial sector just as the recession hit in 2007-08; he was then HR director at insurance and healthcare giant AXA PPP, which has its UK HQ at Tunbridge Wells.

Company size also plays a part; larger companies often have a sizeable HR function – he managed 60 staff at AXA PPP – so might be expected to keep a tight grip on staff morale, but the directors are often under pressure to maintain shareholder returns in the face of a downturn: "This means that you often have to hit your most expensive item hard… staff costs."

But while he expected this to remain a typical company response to a downturn, he added: "There is evidence this time around that not all firms hit staff budgets and many retained staff training and development spending, recognising that this is the engine of a firm's recovery. We are learning."

With his current international brief at Specsavers – the High Street opticians that has become a UK success story – he has also seen at first hand that while HR principles can be applied in theory in any country, it actually varies country by country and according to culture and working culture.

At the other end of the scale, he added, there is no universal answer for the UK either, with Kent being a case in point due to its high concentration of smaller businesses.

Could they learn from bigger organisations with specialist HR sections though?

"It works both ways," he said.

"I actually think big firms can learn just as much from small businesses.

"Many SMEs (small to medium enterprises) are family or privately run and have much closer contact with employees, seeing them in the workplace regularly.

Apprenticeship Graduation Event

Representatives from local companies, Thanet College staff and guests have recently shared in the success of more than 30 Apprentices who were recognised for their achievement in completing their programme of training.

The May event, the 3rd of its kind, was not only aimed at celebrating the hard work and endeavour of the College staff and the Apprentices but also to give thanks to the companies who sponsor them.

Apprenticeships are tough qualifications. Individuals need to demonstrate their knowledge, they need high levels of performance and also to be in full time work. More often than not they will also have to study Mathematics, English, sometimes Information Technology, (IT) as well as knowing about Employment Rights and Responsibilities (ERR).

Modern businesses regard Apprentices as key members of staff. Being immersed in the companies' culture and practices as well as training to Industry Standards, Apprentices bring knowledge and fresh ideas into business practice.

Introducing the event Sarah Poston, Head of Business Services, said "Apprenticeships are good for business especially in the current climate. They prepare young people for a life and career of work. They also demonstrate Thanet Colleges' long term commitment to the business and wider community, supporting the Colleges' mission to 'Raise aspirations, develop skills and deliver quality'."

Thanet College has increasing levels of success in certifying Apprentices and offers training in a wide range of areas. We can meet with you to discuss how an Apprentice would strengthen your business. If you would like to know more, please get in touch with our Training Solutions team by calling 01843 605032 or emailing training.solutions@thanet.ac.uk

THANET COLLEGE

TRAINING SOLUTIONS

THE DAILY GRIND: Human resources grew up as a result of the stresses and strains workers felt in production plants such as this one

MARK'S TOP TIPS

- Prioritise staff morale for internal and external good: "You want people to be good advocates of your organisation."
- **Use all available media to reach staff, from a cutting-edge intranet, to traditional posters and notice boards.**
- Avoid hierarchical management as far as possible; this can stifle company communication and encourage resentment and remoteness.

"When I was with AXA, a huge organisation, I was always guarding against that closeness of contact going missing.

"Specsavers remains a family-run business that has managed to retain that closeness, despite rapid growth."

He added this was partly explained by the company's attitude to the other major aspect of the HR function, recruitment – less publicised of late due to the downturn.

"Specsavers has a very robust approach to recruitment, taking a lot of trouble to find the right people," he said.

"But the result is that not many people want to leave the company once they join and that is a measure of good policy."

But good internal communication is the cornerstone of good HR, said Mark, heading off problems and delivering information.

And he has a proven track record of lateral thinking here, using the arts as a way of maximising impact. He is most proud of the way he was able to use drama in what became an award-winning campaign for staff at AXA PPP and known as 'Project Julie'.

Using a two-week build-up, a company of actors delivered episodes – via the company internet – telling the story of fictitious employee Julie, who felt she was suffering religious discrimination.

"It was about 'how do you deal with those situations?' What you should and shouldn't say and we should be careful of gender and race – what might seem a harmless joke can accelerate out of control," Mark said.

He added that a bonus from the company's point of view was that, apart from being good viewing, there was no need to take staff out of the work environment to drive home the message via seminars. By accident, the campaign gained further impact shortly afterwards through a well-publicised row at British Airways after the airline ruled that an employee's crucifix pendant breached uniform rules.

Project Julie's use of the arts was unusual at the time, though the approach is being used increasingly in HR, added Mark.

However, he is unsure whether HR is moving ahead on all fronts.

"In the past, the HR professional was required to have a broad knowledge of HR. In the past five to 10 years though there has been a tendency for people to concentrate on a specific area; they are not getting the breadth of knowledge and, in the more senior positions, I think you need to have that wider knowledge and experience."

ON the other hand, HR's professional body, the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development, has pushed for a more a more strategic approach and to elevate HR as a valuable part of the company structure.

"More than the old 'tea and sympathy' image and more of a tested and measured input – HR is having to challenge itself," he added.

Away from work, Mark likes to relax to the sounds of an increasingly large and eclectic music collection.

"They have been stretched even more by two growing daughters and it's something of a lottery at the moment. They will say 'you have got to listen to this'. Sometimes 'this' is good, but sometimes I think it's their way of persuading me to finance their own CD collections. I love it really though."

He also enjoys photography and one day hopes to complete training for his private pilot's licence.

MARK MOORTON'S CV

- **1980 – joins energy company Seeboard and rises swiftly through posts in sales and customer services, industrial relations, training and graduate recruitment and pay and benefits.**
- 1995 – takes on human resources consultancy role with Seeboard International, taking him to Africa, Thailand and the USA, leading to appointment as the Sussex-based company's UK HR manager to start a new HR department.
- **1998 – enters the publishing industry as HR director with Centaur Communications, London.**
- 2001 – joins AXA PPP, the French-based international insurance and health care giant, which has its UK HQ in Tunbridge Wells. HR director with a budget of £4.5 million.
- **2009 – Director of HR at Specsavers creating international HR team across Scandinavia, Netherlands, Hungary and UK.**

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Picture: ADRIAN BROOKS/IMAGEWISE

Bluewater given sainted approval for gushing sales

TRENDY clothing chain All Saints has underlined Bluewater's defiance of current retailing gloom by doubling its floor space at the Kent shopping centre.

News the 50-store chain – a British success story with satellite outlets in Paris, Antwerp and New York – will now create a flagship at Bluewater follows buoyant trading there.

Bluewater posted a 1.8 per cent increase in sales during April compared with the same time last year – the overall UK trend was minus 2.3 per cent versus April, 2009. Bluewater beat the UK average for February to April (up 5.7 per cent).

Bluewater general manager Andrew Parkinson said: "Our sales results in April highlight the importance of creating the right offer for guests, which is achieved by delivering the optimum mix of retail, catering, leisure facilities and services, together with a unique day-out experience.

"A large format All Saints is therefore a very welcome addition to Bluewater's comprehensive fashion offer."

BUCKING THE TREND: Bluewater posted sales increase for April

Budget may see start of a wealth stampede

WHILE the money markets nervously await the coalition Government's emergency Budget next month, some experts predict a flurry of activity to prevent being clobbered by a major overhaul of capital gains tax (CGT), ***writes Chris Britcher***.

According to accountancy firm Horwath Clark Whitehill (HCW) it will be company directors leading the charge in what it dubbed a 'mass stampede to the sales'.

And HCW also expects Chancellor George Osborne's debut Budget, on June 22, to unveil radical plans for attacking the nation's deficit.

Simon Warne, tax partner at HCW, which has offices in Tunbridge Wells and Maidstone, said: "We already know there are tax increases on the way.

"The suggestion is that increases in areas like CGT might be brought in from April, 2011, but with the size of the deficit this Government has to tackle, it would not be surprising if they brought in tax measures in the Budget which will bite straight away.

"You could even envisage sales between members of a family in order to take advantage of an 18 per cent CGT rate if, as we are led to believe, CGT is likely to double to 40 per cent.

"Someone who was planning a sale later in the year might not want to risk a large tax increase and might decide to crystallise the gain early, with a sale to a third party coming later.

"There is even a rumour that CGT might be aligned with income tax, which would bring the highly controversial 50 per cent rate into play."

The new Government has said an increase in CGT will be at the heart of reforms to be brought in. The Tories have already agreed to a Lib Dem proposal to raise the income tax threshold to £10,000, but it is not yet known whether that will come in to force in April, 2011, or to be phased in.

CAPITAL FELLOW: New Chancellor George Osborne will make changes

It is to be paid for by keeping the employee element of the National Insurance contributions controversially proposed by Labour, but dropping Labour's intention to increase employers' National Insurance, which the Tories had branded a "tax on jobs".

Other manifesto pledges that may be dropped towards coalition harmony are likely to include the Tory proposal to increase the inheritance tax threshold to £1 million and the Lib Dems' proposal for a 'mansion tax' on properties worth more than £2m.

But for those contemplating nuptials of a non-political nature, the Tory proposal of a £150 marriage tax break for middle and low-income earners will still go ahead.

"One thing's for certain, George Osborne has got to find a lot of money from somewhere if he is to make savings of £6 billion and start to pull back the economic deficit," Mr Warne said.

"Inevitably we are all going to have to pay one way or another. Those with significant investments or shareholdings might well be advised to speak to their tax advisers sooner rather than later," he added.

■ TAX experts say they expect to be burning the midnight oil after George Osborne delivers the Budget on June 22.

As the coalition government reveals its plans, KPMG head of tax South East Tom McGinness said: "In terms of the Government's key pledge on business tax – to reduce the headline rate of corporation tax – it's encouraging that there is a pledge to protect manufacturing which could potentially be hit hard if capital allowances are removed.

"But there are many other sectors that could also feel a negative impact by this or other ways to fund the reduced rate and we would hope they too are considered.

"Tax professionals are gearing up for a long night on June 22. The coalition's document repeated a lot of previously mentioned commitments on business tax but, as expected, there is still little detail.

"Indeed, some of the measures highlighted in George Osborne's speech to the CBI such as the reform of the controlled foreign companies law – which he quite rightly said was a key issue for business – were not mentioned at all.

"What the coalition document does suggest is that no fixed decisions have yet been made on corporate tax other than the desire to reduce the rate by some means.

"That's a good thing since this is a complex area with no one solution that will work for all.

"The document implies the new government may be taking time to consider its options and to consult on business tax issues. Given that there is a proposal for a five-year road map for a big reform of corporation tax, it will be crucial that business makes its voice heard.

"It's a cliché, but where tax is concerned the devil really is in the detail. There are lots of issues that are potentially huge, where we really need to see the legislation to understand the implications."

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Making a smart move

CHOOSING the right mobile phone contract could save your business thousands of pounds a year, and boost staff productivity too.

A survey last year suggested that staff with full internet and email access do up to 14 hours a week extra work – anyone can work anywhere with the latest smartphones.

But how much phone power do you really need and how easy it is for users to manage? Do they need a camera? Does your business really need social media feeds? Do staff need to keep in touch with news, business trends and political information?

The new breed of touch-sensitive screens may be good, but many prefer the full BlackBerry-style keyboard, when email and messages are key to your working day.

GARY WRIGHT delivers this Business Week guide from the maze of phones and operating systems.

IF YOU listen to media hype, you might think the Apple iPhone is the best phone in the world and the rest are poor seconds.

You would be wrong. In the USA the BlackBerry continues to be the default business choice with its widely imitated, but still not bettered, push-email keeping you connected to your office as it happens.

Apple has sold 50 million iPhones worldwide – Nokia sells almost that many mobiles monthly.

But Apple did change the market three years ago by offering a superbly engineered phone with a beautiful and intuitive touchscreen. Individually written programmes, called apps, allow users to tailor the phone to their needs.

There are more than 100,000 apps currently, but that includes games and many similar apps – there are almost 20 different apps for Twitter alone, and you need only one.

Many apps are novelties or of limited use; do you really need an app to decide how to divide the bill in a restaurant? If you do, then perhaps you need to upgrade your circle of friends as well as your phone.

Simplicity

But the iPhone made rival manufacturers take notice; the future is mobile computing, and Apple was forging a formidable lead.

Microsoft has admitted it failed to respond quickly enough with its own WinMo OS and Nokia's familiar OS now looks jaded.

Search engine giant Google also shook the market with its Android system 18 months ago. It offers Apple-style simplicity plus apps, but anyone can write software for it and the Android app store doesn't have some of the restrictions imposed by Apple's iTunes. Android can also run Flashplayer in web pages to watch web video – Apple can't.

Our spotlight is on the operating systems and best business smartphone tips. Prices stated were the best online as we went to press: all are available free with unlimited data plans from £30 a month individually, or less for multiple packages to businesses.

SYMBIAN 60 OS

(47 PER CENT OF SMARTPHONES SOLD)

NOKIA is good at business phones. Its operating system is familiar to everyone, but dated. The latest S60 OS is used also by Sony Ericsson and Samsung. Nokia's Ovi App Store is chasing Android with new vigour in 2010, because Nokia allows anyone to write their own app.

KEY MODEL: Nokia E72 (£260)

FOR: Excellent push email, easy to set up, runs free BBC iPlayer

AGAINST: No touchscreen, but it doesn't need it

VERDICT: Long battery life, good keyboard, slick metal finish. Nokia's rival to the BlackBerry – the professional's choice

Alternatively, look at the excellent N97 which is supremely capable, bulletproof and has a full keyboard – complete with Carl Zeiss camera lens.

• **TIP:** take a look at Nokia's E63, a budget E72 – nowhere near as cool, but a capable email workhorse with internet access.

ANDROID OS

(ONE IN FIVE OF ALL PHONES SOLD IN FIRST QUARTER OF 2010)

GOOGLE'S open source answer to Apple which half a dozen manufacturers have embraced including Sony Ericsson with the Xperia X10, Motorola with its Dext and Milestone and, most successfully, Taiwanese HTC.

The HTC Hero last year was the first real iPhone threat and has been followed up by the aluminium Legend and big screen Desire. HTC also makes Google's own-brand Nexus One. Android is the success story of 2010 so far, and market watchers say Android will overtake the Apple operating system within 18 months.

KEY MODEL: HTC Desire (£390)

FOR: Brilliant iPhone beater – bigger, better, faster, cheaper. Google compatibility brings all the benefits of on-line synchronisation for docs, calendar, diary and your work email

AGAINST: 'Only' 30,000 Android apps, on-screen keyboard only and an average camera

VERDICT: The iPhone killer – Vodafone ran out of Desires within a month

Qwerty keyboard fans could also look at the Motorola Dext (£149 from Orange – half the launch price six months ago) and Milestone (£345) with the US brand's own Motoblur system for merging messages, social network updates and emails. Easy to set up though keyboard adds weight – Milestone is Time magazine's phone of the year.

BLACKBERRY

(20 PER CENT OF SMARTPHONES SOLD)

STILL the first choice for serious business users. The company lost its way a little last year with the Storm touchscreen, but its full keyboard Bold is bulletproof.

KEY MODEL: BlackBerry Bold 9700 (£360 and all operators offer packages to include email data)

FOR: Instant email as it happens, superfast web browsing, great build and quality phone when making calls

AGAINST: No touchscreen, basic camera, app store is small and lacks excitement (NB – Documents on the Go app integrates Microsoft Office function for £40)

VERDICT: For email and messaging, it's the Don

Try also BlackBerry Storm 2 full touchscreen (£390). BlackBerry takes on other touchscreen mobiles and loses, but email is still excellent.

WINDOWS MOBILE 6.5

(3 PER CENT OF SMARTPHONES SOLD)

NOW seen as old hat, but WinMo OS integrates perfectly with your PC software and that's still a business nirvana for many.

Samsung, Sony Ericsson and HTC manufacturer excellent WinMo phones. It will be superseded by Windows Mobile 7 later this year which will support finger touchscreens. Expect it to be excellent. But Windows fans know there is more to a phone than touchscreens.

KEY MODEL: HTC HD2 (£470)

FOR: HTC performs magic on Windows Mobile OS and made it sexy. Big 4.3-inch screen gives iPhone type class

AGAINST: No qwerty keyboard

VERDICT: HD2 is still a contender thanks to HTC's brilliant interface – silk purse made from WinMo's sow's ear

Try also Sony Ericsson Xperia X2, pictured, (£340) – a mini computer with superb qwerty keyboard.

iPHONE OS 3

(14.4 PER CENT OF SMARTPHONES SOLD)

SOLD in 8GB, 16GB or 32GB versions. Already an icon, it is simple to use and has tons of apps. The handset is due for replacement this summer with an operating system update. Expect multi-tasking, bigger, brighter screen and a better camera. Existing iPhone users can download the new operating system.

KEY MODEL: iPhone 3GS 16GB (3GS 32GB £538 or 16GB £440. Tesco does cheapest individual deal, but O2, Orange and Vodafone will structure a multi-handset business deal)

FOR: Highly responsive touchscreen, very stable. Whatever you do, there is an app for it. Brilliant music player too – you can bin your iPod

AGAINST: Can't multi-task, only on-screen keyboard, rubbish camera and great web browser, but no Flashplayer. Needs frequent recharge

VERDICT: Benchmark smartphone, but high upfront cost makes it a splendid gadget rather than a professional's workphone.

NEXT WEEK: Business Week Spotlight will focus on commerical property and facilities

Timeline

KOS Media sport takes a look at the highlights of all the sporting action from the last 50 years

1960 **50 YEARS AGO:** A SPORTING declaration by Kent backfired in spectacular fashion as they suffered a four-wicket defeat to Essex at Gravesend – with just four balls of the final over remaining.

Kent had made 332 in their first innings and after dismissing Essex for 251 on a favourable wicket at the Bat & Ball, they declared on 191 for 7 in the second innings in a bid to force the win.

But there was an astonishing recovery by Essex, who, having been set a target of 273 to win in three hours, seemed to have abandoned the chase at 175 for 6.

However, with the batsmen, Greensmith and Knight, accumulating runs almost by accident, with two overs to go they needed just 13 to win.

Cowdrey handed the new ball to Fred Ridgway, but he was clouted for 11. The final ball of his over was lost in the crowd, but the umpire – Jack Crapp – decided there was still time for another six balls, allowing Knight to administer a breathtaking coup de grace with a four off Dave Halfyard's second delivery.

1985 **25 YEARS AGO:** AMERICAN Arnold Palmer announced he would not be competing in the Open at Royal St George's, Sandwich, from July 18-21.

The 55-year-old American, who won the PGA title on the same course in 1975, made the decision after a slump in form.

The move had been on the cards ever since Palmer carded 83 in the first round of the US Masters in April, when he said: "I am fortunate the spectators, who have followed me over the years, continue to make me want to play, but if I shoot many more 83s I am going to have to reconsider that."

2000 **10 YEARS AGO:** A STUNNING comeback in the second period of extra time saw Gillingham promoted to the second tier of English football for the first time in their history, after a 3-2 win over Wigan in the play-off final at Wembley.

Twelve months after a shattering defeat on penalties to Manchester City, the Gills turned the tables with two goals in the final six minutes of extra time.

Pat McGibbon's own goal gave the Gills a lead 10 minutes before half-time, but Simon Howarth equalised on 53 minutes.

The Latics were reduced to 10 when Kevin Sharp was sent off with five minutes to go, but they went ahead through a Stuart Barlow penalty. Gills manager Peter Taylor gambled by bringing on 38-year-old player-coach Steve Butler and striker Andy Thompson, and it paid off with Butler equalising on 114 minutes and Thompson hitting the winner two minutes from time.

Mos net venue deal

Club say improved rink will bring more support

By **FRED ATKINS**

THE Invicta Dynamos were handed a major boost last week when they agreed a new deal with Silver Blades Ice Rinks to continue playing at their Gillingham venue.

Silver Blades, who also have rinks in Cannock and Altrincham, took over what was formerly the Gillingham Ice Bowl last season and successfully concluded negotiations with the Mos on Thursday.

Value

The club's general manager, Martin Rider, says Silver Blades, headed by former player Mark Johnson, have breathed new life into the venue, giving it an urgently needed clean and revamping the facilities, including the dressing rooms.

"They're putting in a new sound system, a new scoreboard, new goals and they've got industrial cleaners in who are cleaning the rink from top to bottom," he said.

"One, it'll attract players and two, it'll attract more supporters. They've always got value for money on the ice, because [coach Kevin Parrish] always put together competitive sides, but obviously the facilities have been a little bit on the shabby side.

"It makes a big, big difference. They (Silver Blades) did the ice for the 02 arena so they know what they're doing – the ice is improving every day."

Picture: IGOR KUPCO

BOOST: The Invicta Dynamos have agreed a new deal with Silver Blades Ice Rinks

Rider says Johnson's love of the sport could be crucial to the team's development.

"He's played hockey at a high level and he still plays, so it's all about the hockey for him, it's not about the money," he said. "It's all good for everyone and hopefully because he's involved in the sport he should be able to attract some sponsorship deals."

That would allow Parrish to assemble a squad capable of defending the ENIHL Division 1 South title they won last year.

His first move this week was to announce defenceman Tim Smith had agreed to stay with the club for a fourth season.

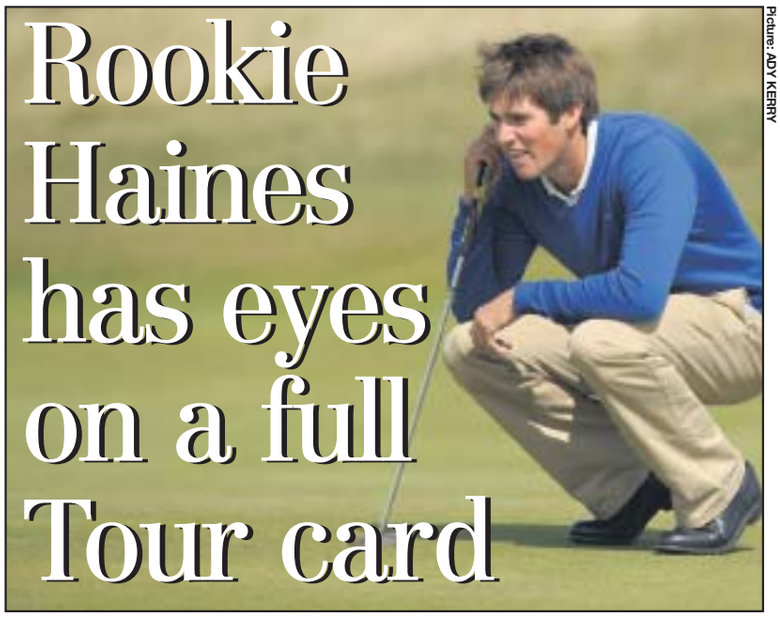
Squash stars set for new county Open

THE inaugural Kent Squash Open begins next week with entrants from more than 16 countries attending the event at the Mote Squash Club in Maidstone.

The top seed for the tournament, which starts on Tuesday, is Scotland's Alan Clyne, ranked 62 in the world, while Kent hopes rest with Ben Ford, Steven London, Jonny Powell, Neil Baker and James Evans.

"We have attracted an international field, plus a strong contingent representing England, Scotland and Ireland," tournament director Alan Thatcher said. Admission is free. Local players will get the chance to take part in "Operation Smack" next weekend, hitting the ball as hard as they can in front of a radar gun.

Rookie Haines has eyes on a full Tour card



Picture: ADY KERRY

EARNING a full European Challenge Tour card is the main target for newly turned professional golfer Matt Haines (pictured above).

The 20-year-old achieved a life-long ambition earlier this month when he joined Hambric Sports Management group to become a professional golfer. With his dream accomplished, he now faces the challenge of proving his place on the European Challenge Tour.

The Rochester golfer has been given eight starts on the Tour as part of his deal. Haines, who has featured at the top end of the world amateur rankings for several years, completed his first tournament as a pro with a creditable tied 36th finish at the Mugello Tuscany Open last week.

With his professional career barely underway, he is clear about what he intends to achieve with his eight Tour starts.

He said: "I hope I can finish high enough in the rankings to earn a full Challenge Tour card, then the following season we will see how it goes. Going to Tour School at the end of the year is an option.

"The offer to turn professional was too good to turn down. The standard is pretty much the same as I have been used to in the amateur game. However, when you drop a shot here you lose a lot of ground. One thing I have noticed is the difference in the short game. Chipping is probably one of the best parts of my game, but the standard is unbelievable."

Haines took part in his second European Challenge Tour event this week at the Telenet Trophy in Belgium.

Cricket at Tunbridge Wells

Friday 4 June - Monday 7 June

Kent v Nottinghamshire

Gates open 9.00am Start time 11.00am

Wednesday 9 June

Kent Spitfires v Sussex Sharks

Gates open 3.30pm Start time 5.30pm

Kent County Cricket Club

Tel: 01227 456886 Email: communications.kent@ecb.co.uk Web: www.kentccc.com

'A red letter day in the annals of Kent history'

SEPTEMBER 1, 1906: In the latest of our series on the county's great sporting moments of the past, sports reporter FRED ATKINS recalls Kent's famous last-day victory over Hampshire which saw them win the County Championship and usher in a golden age in the club's history

FOR most of the 1906 season Kent appeared destined for the runners-up slot in the County Championship, the price of a mediocre start that saw them win just five of their opening 11 games.

Even after a season-turning win over Essex at The Nevill on July 18, Kent still looked like playing second fiddle to Yorkshire, until the Tykes suffered a stunning one-run defeat at Gloucestershire in their penultimate game.

Kent still needed a draw at Bournemouth, then part of Hampshire, in their final game to secure the title, but skipper CHB Marsham, criticised in the build-up to the finale despite steering his side to a 10-successive wins, held his nerve.

"[Hampshire] won the toss on a perfect wicket but for some unaccountable reason were all dismissed for 163. We then made matters safe," he later wrote, with some understatement.

In fact their success was far from unaccountable. Marsham had a formidable bowling attack to call on and his batsmen replied with 610 in just six hours.

Burnup (179) and Hutchings (124) were the top scorers, pushing Kent to what remains to this day the highest score in a first-class game at Dean Park.

Hampshire put up a fight in their second innings, but were all out for 410 when Wyatt was run out.

Marsham said Saturday, September 1 was: "a red letter day in the annals of Kent cricket," and he was deluged with more than 500 congratulatory telegrams and messages.

There was some carping about the percentage system used to determine the championship (Kent won with a 77.7 record from 22 games, while Yorkshire had 70.0 from 28), but for WG Grace there was no argument – Kent were worthy champions.

"Fielder, Blythe, Mason, Humphreys and Woolley are able to get most sides out and the batting is uniformly excellent," he said. "Moreover there is not a bad fieldsman among them."

The title ushered in Kent's first golden age, though as Alfred Gibson pointed out in the Morning Leader, this had a downside.

"Kent is a great county," he wrote. "(But) nor are we likely to be allowed to forget it.

"Everywhere one goes one is confronted with Men of Kent… the number of Kent men has increased alarmingly in these past six weeks and one cannot walk abroad without being tripped up by a man who informs you that he was born in Kent, or at least his grandparents or parents were."

CHAMPION: Frank Woolley played in the victorious side in 1906

World Cup boost for Ritchie's 2012 hopes

DAN Ritchie increased his London 2012 chances by representing Great Britain in the opening round of the Rowing World Cup this weekend.

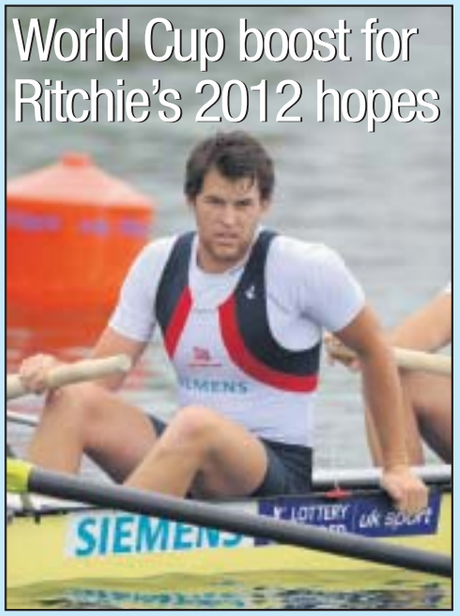
The 23-year-old, (pictured) from Herne Bay, joined up with the Great Britain rowing squad to compete in the men's eights in Slovenia.

After finishing fifth in the World Championships last year, Great Britain headed into the meeting as one of the favourites for today's final.

The regatta is Ritchie's second taste of the World Cup after competing in last season's event. Injury forced him out of the first round, but he returned to help the eights win bronze in Munich as Britain won the overall title. He only stepped up to the senior squad last season, winning bronze at the World Under-23 Championships.

He is part of a squad which includes former Olympic champion Greg Searle, who is returning to competitive rowing after 10 years away from the sport.

The regatta began with the heats on Friday.



Duo overseas tour pick after impressing on county duty

TWO Kent rugby players are jetting across the Atlantic to represent their country this week as part of the England Counties side embarking on a three-game tour of Canada.

Blackheath's Paul Humphries and Steve Hamilton will wear the Red Rose following their performances in the Kent side which stormed to promotion and the Division Two final of the county championship.

Fly-half Humphries has been in superb kicking form as Kent stormed past Hampshire, Somerset and Middlesex, while Hamilton, at inside-centre, played all three pool games as Kent conceded just 29 points, scoring 164.

The pair have been on the fringes of the Counties side for a while and Kent's successful campaign gave them an extra edge, with Hamilton delighted by the call-up.

"It came out of the blue but both of us are chuffed," he said. "We've both been wanting to be involved for the last year or so and this is a proud moment."

England play Canadian regional side The Rock in St John's on Friday, before heading west to take on Ontario Blues in Toronto next Tuesday. The tour then concludes with a game against British Columbia Bears in Vancouver on June 12.

Kent coach Chris Wilkins said: "It's testament to how the rest of the team have played. They're the lucky ones, to get a bit of individual glory, but they'd be the first to accept it's a team effort."

CALL-UP: (l-r) Steve Hamilton and Paul Humphries will represent Kent in Canada

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The Hessiah?

There is no doubting the return to Priestfield of club legend Andy Hessenthaler has delighted Gills fans but, asks sports editor GLENN PEARSON, is his reappointment a step in the right direction or is the club chasing ghosts of glories past?

GILLINGHAM'S mercurial son returned for a second stint as manager at Priestfield this week, five-and-a-half years after resigning because he felt he couldn't take the club any further.

The Gills were in the Championship then and six years on, Andy Hessenthaler, seen as a Messiah figure among supporters, returns with the club back in League Two.

Chairman Paul Scally last week contacted non-league side Dover Athletic for permission to speak to Hessenthaler about taking over as Mark Stimson's successor, and after having summoned the 44-year-old to Dubai for talks, Scally made his mind up last Friday and offered him a three-year contract.

After spending eight weeks finding "the right man" when appointing Stimson in 2007, Scally waited just 11 days before making his mind up and asking Hessenthaler to return to Priestfield.

Whether there was any time to interview any other candidates from the 30 or so that are believed to have applied for the job remains unclear, but what is plainly obvious is Scally demands a return to League One at the first time of asking and believes Hessenthaler, who led the Gills to their highest ever position of 11th in the Championship, is the man to do that.

While Gills fans appeared to take exception to Stimson almost from the off, Hessenthaler, voted the club's greatest ever player by the PFA in 2007, will almost certainly be given a degree of leniency by supporters if the side struggle to achieve promotion in his first season back in charge.

Expectation among the fans will no doubt intensify as the countdown to the season begins and while that brings a degree of pressure, it wasn't enough to put Hessenthaler off making a Priestfield return.

"People will ask 'should you go back', but for me I am not worrying about that situation," he said. "We have got to produce results that will get us back into League One and the chairman has clearly said that. We've got to get this club back to where it belongs because it's not a League Two club."

Experience

Hessenthaler will be able to call on the experience of last season's first-team coach Mark Robson, now his new assistant manager, who himself applied for the job vacated by Stimson, but in truth probably saw his chances of landing the job dwindle as a result of being associated with the ancien régime that saw the Gills relegated on the final day of last season.

Robson, who has yet to sign a contract, was actually put forward by Stimson when he left the club and despite clearly harbouring ambitions to one day manage his own side, the 41-year-old doesn't think that will cause any problems between himself and Hessenthaler.

"It was tough to make that decision to go for the job but I did and Mark made that easy for me by dropping my name in," Robson said. "To be fair, the chairman had mentioned about Andy and we met up and had a chat and ultimately Andy was the manager and me number two. I'm fine with that, I've no problem with that and I'm looking forward to the challenge."

Hessenthaler was also quick to agree: "There is trust between us straight away, we are here to work together. Mark Stimson put his name forward and rightly so, he is a top coach. I knew that he wanted the job and there is no problem there, we are here to be a partnership and push things forward, so there's no problem there."

The pair have work to do with decisions to be made about the future of 14 out-of-contract players and while there is a budget to bring in new players, Hessenthaler will need to be shrewd in the transfer market and didn't rule out shopping for non-league players – something his predecessor was heavily criticised for doing during his stay.

What is for certain is the Gillingham fans have got their way with the appointment of their 'Messiah' and the level of expectation for a return to League One will certainly be greater than when the Gills dropped into the bottom tier of League football two seasons ago.

Over to you Hess.

FANS' FAVOURITE: But what happens if Andy Hessenthaler fails to win promotion back into League One in his first season back in charge of Gills? Picture: ADY KERRY

Top referee says campaign for Respect will take years

PREMIERSHIP referee Steve Bennett believes the Football Association's Respect Programme is beginning to make an impact on behaviour both on and off the field, but warned it will take years of support to make a real difference.

The 49-year-old is one of the country's most experienced referees and has officiated in the Premier League for more than a decade, taking charge of the 2007 FA Cup final.

It is almost two years since the FA launched the Respect Campaign, aimed at improving behaviour on and off the pitch in a bid to address the sharp decline in referees leaving the sport.

Bennett, who lives in Orpington, is Kent's FA Respect Ambassador. While he feels progress is being made, it is too early to call it a success.

He said: "The campaign is good, it's not only the top level but grass roots. I'm sure the whole concept will eventually hit home, but I think it's a very slow process. You've got to stay strong with it, there's no point launching it one year and then letting it disappear."

PROGRESS: Steve Bennett, talking to reporter David Pritchard, says the Respect campaign will take time

One major reason for the loss of referees is the behaviour of parents and coaches on the touchline, especially at youth levels. Bennett admits the levels of abuse can still be staggering, especially towards newly qualified officials, who are often teenagers themselves.

At a local level, the Kent County FA (KCFA) have worked hard to implement the programme. Last weekend 260 teams took part in the first Kent Football Tournament at the Kent County Showground near Maidstone, which was organised to help promote the Respect message.

The vast majority of leagues in the county have now signed up to the programme and dissent this season was down by six per cent. Stephanie Gadd, football development officer at the KCFA, is confident given enough time behaviour will change permanently.

She said: "It's a long-term thing that gradually people will accept. Football got to a tipping point where we needed to address it or it was going to go into decline. There were so many young people and referees dropping out of the game, whereas now we've hopefully starting to increase numbers again."

Faint hope Fleet can still avoid relegation

EBBSFLEET United could still line up in the Blue Square Premier next season after Salisbury City were deemed ineligible to remain in the division for financial reasons.

With Salisbury set to drop down two leagues, there is a vacancy which could be filled by the Fleet, who finished second-bottom on 43 points – two from safety.

However, Forest Green Rovers would be first in line for a reprieve, having finished immediately above Liam Daish's side, and the Gloucestershire club have already been named among the 24 Premier clubs in the Conference constitution.

Nothing has yet been finalised, though, with Salisbury appealing the decision against them and some uncertainty still surrounding Forest Green's desire to go back up, should they be offered the chance.

Ebbsfleet have yet to sign any players for next season or announce their budget, but they will finally learn their fate at the Conference AGM on June 12 when either they, Forest Green or Salisbury, are named as the 24th Blue Square Premier member for 2010-11.

IN LIMBO: Peter Danzey is ready for life in Blue Square South

Fleet secretary Peter Danzey said: "As it stands, Salisbury have not been accepted into the Blue Square Premier for next season, subject to appeal. It leaves Ebbsfleet in slight limbo but we are preparing for life in Blue Square South because that's where we are. It would take a lot to happen for us to be reprieved and if Salisbury win their appeal, Forest Green will still be relegated.

"I'd rather know now where we are because there's a big difference between playing in Blue Square South and Blue Square Premier."

Kent bid Ntini fond farewell

Club to miss South African fast bowler after explosive spell at St Lawrence

By GLENN PEARSON

MAKHAYA Ntini signs off his five-week Kent stay in tomorrow's Clydesdale Bank 40 game with the Scottish Saltires, with his impact felt off the pitch as much as on it.

The South African, who boasts 390 wickets in a staggering 101 Tests for his country, proved a big hit at St Lawrence after signing as a replacement for Australian Stuart Clark.

The 32-year-old claimed match figures of 10 for 104 in the midweek win over Durham, which followed a five-wicket haul against the same side the week before, to prove his worth.

Head coach Paul Farbrace, who was instrumental in bringing Ntini to St Lawrence, has hailed his commitment to the team.

"We spent a long time researching and knew we had signed the right person," he said. "Performances over a period of time show he has been a good signing for us.

"He has run in every day for us, every innings he has given everything – he couldn't have given any more in the five weeks he has been here."

His impact on the likes of Matt Coles, Simon Cook and perhaps more importantly Amjad Khan – who he instantly bonded with – is likely to be felt right up to the end of the season.

Khan looks to have learned from his new ball partner after himself leaving the Riverside in the week with a seven-wicket haul, and Farbrace believes Ntini's time at Kent has been invaluable.

He said: "It's not just what people bring on the field, of course that's important because that's what they will be judged on, but the fact he had made such a contribution with the other players is significant.

"He helped Amjad and all of our bowlers, young and old, and his commitment to Kent cricket, for a bloke that has played more than 100 Test matches, has been outstanding.

"His personality has been great for us and everyone was genuinely pleased he got his 10 wickets against Durham. There wasn't a single member of the team that wasn't made up for him because they knew what he had given to the side.

"He is a noisy bugger but he is a fun bloke to have around and when we have been battling it would have been easy as an overseas professional to have concentrated on his own game and gone into his shell, but he didn't. He earned his day in the sunshine."

The fast bowler lines up for Kent for the final time in the Bank Holiday's visit of the Scottish Saltires before flying back to South Africa on Tuesday.

Pictures: ADY KERRY

FUN WHILE IT LASTED: Skipper Rob Key (right) and his Kent team-mates will miss South African paceman Makhaya Ntini (left), whose short spell ends tomorrow

Stevo century helps Kent crush Durham

KENT crushed Division One champions Durham inside two days to earn their first LV= County Championship win of the season and move off the foot of the table.

The innings and four-run victory was completed on Tuesday and rounded off a good week for the club after they picked up their first win in all competitions last weekend with a nine-wicket thrashing of Scotland in the Clydesdale Bank 40.

Makhaya Ntini led the way at the Riverside with match-winning figures of 10 for 104, while Darren Stevens continued his remarkable season with his third century of the summer.

Amjad Khan claimed 5 for 43 in Durham's first innings as the hosts were bowled out for 121, while Stevens hit 102 and shared in a valuable 94-run partnership with Matt Coles (34) as Kent scored 320.

Then Ntini, in his last championship game for the club, set about like a man possessed, taking 6 for 51 to bowl Durham out for 195 and ensuring Kent came away from the Riverside with a 22-point haul.

For head coach Paul Farbrace, who had watched the side go eight games without a win any competition, it was particularly pleasing to see the side put together a complete performance.

"Having not played at our best over the last few weeks and obviously having some disappointing results, to win so emphatically at Durham shows the skill level in the team and the spirit," he said.

Key to Kent's return to winning ways has been the form of senior batsmen Rob Key and Martin van Jaarsveld.

The pair struggled early on and the side have had to be reliant on lower order partnerships, but both are now putting together some consistent performances.

Farbrace said: "Martin hasn't been overly happy with the runs he has scored, but both he and Rob are two of the best players in county cricket and the fact both are making a contribution makes it easier on others."

IN FORM: Batsman Darren Stevens scored his third century of the season

Weak at the seamers

CRUCIAL: Amjad Khan's fitness is vital while his team-mates recover from injury

THE seam bowling department at St Lawrence remains fragile after the news Robbie Joseph and Dewald Nel look unlikely to make a first-team appearance in the next month.

Joseph, who missed almost the entire second half of last summer after dislocating a shoulder, is yet to return after undergoing surgery in the winter, while Nel has been given a month off in an effort to give his troublesome back time to heal.

Joseph had two injections in his shoulder this week to relieve it of a build up of fluid and although he has been able to bowl, it's been fielding that has been most painful.

He is not expected to be back any time soon and Nel is ruled out for the majority of June, making Amjad Khan, Simon Cook and Matt Coles the only reliable and fit seamers available.

As the club's strike bowler, the importance of Khan staying injury free isn't lost on head coach Paul Farbrace, who admits leaving the Danish born quick out of some competitions might be the way to go.

"We are still not in a great position seam bowling wise and if we were to lose Khan we really would have a battle on our hands, so we have to be careful with him," he said.

"We want him to play 20-over, 40-over and championship cricket, but there may come a time when one or two competitions become our priority and he doesn't play so much.

"One of things with Khan is that he is in the last year of his contract and we asked him to show he is value for money in all three forms of the game, because in the past he has played championship cricket and missed the one-dayers.

"That hasn't been his fault because in the past the club have wanted to look after him but we want him to show he can play all forms."

Tony Palladino has returned to Essex after the county ended his short-term loan early.

KENT COUNTY CRICKET CLUB FIXTURES 2010

MAY		
May 31	**SCOTTISH SALTIRES** (h)	Clydesdale Bank 40
JUNE		
June 2	**ESSEX EAGLES** (a)	Friends Provident t20
June 3	**HAMPSHIRE ROYALS** (a)	Friends Provident t20
June 4	**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE** (h)	LV= County Championship
June 9	**SUSSEX SHARKS** (h)	Friends Provident t20
June 11	**MIDDLESEX PANTHERS** (h)	Friends Provident t20
June 13	**GLOUCESTER'GLADIATORS** (a)	Friends Provident t20
June 18	**SURREY LIONS** (a)	Friends Provident t20
June 20	**SOMERSET SABRES** (h)	Friends Provident t20
June 23	**SURREY LIONS** (h)	Friends Provident t20
June 24	**MIDDLESEX PANTHERS** (a)	Friends Provident t20
June 27	**SUSSEX SHARKS** (a)	Friends Provident t20
June 28	**PAKISTAN** (h)	Tour match
JULY		
July 2	**HAMPSHIRE ROYALS** (h)	Friends Provident t20
July 4	**GLOUCESTER' GLADIATORS** (h)	Friends Provident t20
July 5	**HAMPSHIRE** (a)	LV= County Championship
July 9	**ESSEX EAGLES** (h) (Brit Oval)	Friends Provident t20
July 11	**GLAMORGAN DRAGONS** (h)	Friends Provident t20
July 16	**GLAMORGAN DRAGONS** (a)	Friends Provident t20
July 18	**SOMERSET SABRES** (a)	Friends Provident t20
July 20	**SOMERSET** (a)	LV= County Championship
July 25	**HAMPSHIRE ROYALS** (h)	Clydesdale Bank 40
July 29	**ESSEX** (h)	LV= County Championship
AUGUST		
Aug 3	**SOMERSET** (h)	LV= County Championship
Aug 8	**LEICESTERSHIRE FOXES** (h)	Clydesdale Bank 40
Aug 18	**LANCASHIRE** (h)	LV= County Championship
Aug 22	**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE OUTLAWS** (h)	Clydesdale Bank 40
Aug 29	**HAMPSHIRE ROYALS** (a)	Clydesdale Bank 40
Aug 30	**LEICESTERSHIRE FOXES** (a)	Clydesdale Bank 40
Aug 31	**WARWICKSHIRE** (a)	LV= County Championship
SEPTEMBER		
Sept 4	**DURHAM DYNAMOS** (a)	Clydesdale Bank 40
Sept 7	**HAMPSHIRE** (h)	LV= County Championship
Sept 13	**YORKSHIRE** (a)	LV= County Championship

WHY SPIN ACE CHOSE MOVE TO COUNTY

SETTLING IN: Malinga Bandara pictured playing for Kent 2nd XI this week
Picture: ADY KERRY

Spin legend Muralitharan helped put Sri Lanka team-mate on path to Kent after singing club's praises

By **GLENN PEARSON**

A FRIENDLY word from spin wizard Muttiah Muralitharan was enough to convince Malinga Bandara to join Kent for the second half of the county summer.

Muralitharan played just five first-class games for Kent during the 2003 season, but enjoyed his time at St Lawrence so much that when fellow Sri Lanka team-mate Bandara expressed an interest in playing county cricket, it was Kent's name Murali put forward.

Bandara, a 30-year-old leg-spinner, arrived in the country this week where he played in a Kent 2nd XI game against Sussex at The Mote to help acclimatise to English conditions.

He went through his a full repertoire of leg breaks, googlies and top-spinners on his way to recording figures of 4 for 59 in the first innings, and is looking forward to joining up with Rob Key's side next week.

Bandara told Kent on Sunday: "Everyone knows Kent is a traditionally strong club in county cricket. The chance to play in Twenty20 and for the second half of the season when the pitches should be a bit drier made me want to join Kent, as well as working with Paul Farbrace who was with us last year coaching in Sri Lanka."

The leg-spinner, who has played eight Tests and 31 One-Day Internationals for his country, has been struggling to get in the Sri Lanka side with the likes of Ajantha Mendis and Muralitharan ahead of him in the pecking order, but ironically it was the latter who encouraged him to sign for Kent as a way of furthering his claims of an international recall.

Dream

"I spoke to Murali and he said to go to Kent because they are a good club with good players and he is a friend of Rob Key," Bandara said. "When I was playing school and junior cricket I had a dream of playing county cricket and it's good to be doing that with Kent."

Much is expected of the spin partnership of Bandara and James Tredwell as Kent look to take advantage of the traditionally drier surfaces in the latter half of the summer. With Tredwell taking 69 first-class wickets last season, it's hoped their contrast of spin will help win Kent games and the Sri Lankan is looking forward to teaming up with the England international.

He said: "I know [Tredwell] has been bowling well in the last couple of years and is in the England squad. I think the second half of the season may help the spinners as the pitches are dry and may turn and bounce. I think we will be a good partnership for Kent."

Bandara has experience of playing in England after a successful spell with Gloucestershire in 2005 in which he topped their bowling averages with 45 wickets in eight games.

That alerted the Sri Lanka selectors to his ability, but having played a bit-part role in international cricket recently, he hopes a spell in the English game will increase his chances of becoming a regular in Kumar Sangakkara's side.

He said: "The last time I played county cricket with Gloucestershire I took a lot of wickets and that got me into the Sri Lanka side, hopefully that happens again."

Bandara's first game for Kent will be Tuesday's Friends Provident t20 clash with the Essex Eagles at Chelmsford.

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Thousands expected for weekend of rallycross

LYDDEN Hill will be invaded by thousands of motorsport fans this Bank Holiday weekend as it hosts the British round of the European Rallycross Championship.

The circuit, near Dover, is expected to host a bumper crowd of more than 10,000 spectators as the world's best rallycross drivers do battle. With more than 30 entrants in the top supercar category, a weekend of close dramatic racing is on the cards.

Sittingbourne-based supercar driver Liam Doran will be considered as one of the favourites for the event after a successful start to his debut season in the series. The 23-year-old driver finished on the podium for the first time at the last meeting in France and with extensive knowledge of his home circuit, he will be gunning for a maiden win.

LYDDEN RETURN: Liam Doran

He said: "I don't want to sound big-headed but I feel I can win at Lydden and that is definitely the target this weekend. There are events where I know it's not realistic to expect more than a decent placing, but I know Lydden well."

One driver expected to attract attention is American stunt driver Tanner Foust, who is competing in only his second-ever European Rallycross event.

The 36-year-old experienced driver from Los Angeles is an instantly recognisable personality in America for his stunt driving and is looking forward to racing at a circuit known as 'the home of rallycross'. Foust, the star of a hit computer game Colin McRae Dirt 2, made his debut in the series earlier this month.

He said: "Going door to door it will be tricky and I'm really looking forward to the race. It's much more violent compared to everything I've ever done and more draining. It's a unique atmosphere here. The drivers hang out with each other and talk to each other but once the helmet goes on, it gets ugly."

The action starts with the first of three heats today followed by two more heats and the finals on Bank Holiday Monday.

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